



The Emergence Of Mahdî

Muftî Mahmûd bin Maulânâ Sulaymân Bârdolî
Lecturer at Jâmia Islâmia Dâbhel

Translated by
Abdullâh Moolla

Publication department
Madrasah Arabia Islâmia
Azaadville, South Africa

Jointly Published by:
Madrasah Arabia Islâmia & Zam Zam Publishers

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Title: The Emergence of Mahdi
 Translated by: Abdullâh Moola
 Publication No: A-293
 Second Edition: Rajab 1432, June 2011
 Pages: 200

Book Also Available in:

Azhar Academy Ltd.
 54-68 Little liford lane
 Manor Park London E12 5QA
 Phone: 020-8911-9797

Darul-Uloom Al-Madania
 182, Sobieski St, Buffalo,
 NY 14212 U.S.A

Dawah Corner Bookstore (ركن الدعوة)
 Al Salamah Dist. Near
 Shiabi Mosque, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
 Tel: 00966 2 6989380

Jointly Published By:

Madrasah Arabia Islamia
Publication Department
 1 Azaad Avenue, Azaadville
 P.O Box 9786, Azaadville 1750
 South Africa
 Tel : 0027 11 413 2786
 Fax: 0027 11 413 2787
 E-mail: darululum@webmail.co.za

Zam Zam Publishers
 Urdu Bazar Karachi-Pakistan.
 Ph : 0092-21-32760374
 0092-21-32761671
 E-mail : zamzam01@cyber.net.pk



TRANSLITERATION KEY

أ	' (a slight catch in the breath)	گ	k
ب	a	ج	l
ت	b	م	m
ث	t (has an 'h' sound at the end of a sentence)	ن	n
ث	th (as in 'thorn')	ه	h (as in 'help')
ج	j	و	w
ح	ه	ي	y (as in 'yellow')
خ	kh ('ch' in Scottish loch)		Vowels
د	d (the hard 'th' in 'the')	۴	a (slightly softer than the 'u' in 'but'; an)
ڌ	dh (the soft 'th' in 'the')	۵	i (as in 'in'); in
ر	r	۶	u ('oo' in 'book'); un
ز	z	۷	۸ (elongated a, as when you would stretch the 'a' in plastic)
س	s	۹	۰ ('u' in 'glue')
ش	sh	۱	۲ in ('feet')
س	s	۳	Stress symbol, indicated by repetition of letter
د	d		
ل	۴		Honourifics
ز	۵	۴	Glorified and Most High
ـ	۶	۵	۶ May Allâh's blessings and peace be upon him
ـ	۷	۶	۷ May peace be upon him
ـ	۸	۷	۸ May Allâh be pleased with him/them
ـ	۹	۸	۹ May the mercy of Allâh be upon him

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TRANSLATOR'S PREFACE

حمدہ و نصلی علی رسولہ الکریم .

The book before you is a masterpiece. It is a collection of in-depth research and fulfills a great need. Upon meeting the author during his visit to South Africa, I was told that it was written in order to clarify the belief regarding Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ, since seeing that a lot of incorrect information is easily available on the internet and through other sources. Many have fallen and many are falling into believing many strange things regarding Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ.

In order to increase the readership and popularity of this book, I have tried to the best of my ability to translate simply and make the book as reader friendly as possible. For this reason, certain places have not been translated word-for-word; rather the intended meaning has been presented. Many Urdu and Arabic words cannot be translated. These have been explained in the footnotes. Similarly, we have presented an explanation or definition of the technical words throughout the book. (The author personally granted me permission to do this.) In addition, we have made certain minor additions in the text to ease the flow of language. Footnotes added by the translator or additions in the text have been indicated by the sign [T], i.e. translator. May Allâh ﷺ, in His infinite mercy and grace accept this translation and make it a means of success and salvation. Âmîn

Abdullah Moola
Madrasah 'Arabia Islâmia, Azaadville
19 Shawwâl 1431, 28 September 2010

FOREWORD

Maulânâ Abû Bakr Ghâzîpûrî *dâmat barakâtuhi*
Editor of the Monthly Zam Zam

Maulânâ Mufti Mahmûd Hâfizjî is a capable, knowledgeable young graduate and teacher. He has great enthusiasm for knowledge, and his gaze is focused on the delicate matters of the time. Refuting the deviated sects is his specialty. He believes it his responsibility to defend truth and he fulfils it too.

Let alone the masses, very few among the elite possess correct information with regards to Hadrat¹ Mahdi ﷺ. Understanding the pressing need, Mufti Mahmûd has presented authentic and verifiable information about Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ - who is one of the signs of *Qiyâmah*. This enthusiasm and fervour prompted him to compile the book before you.

All praise is due to Allâh for Mufti Mahmûd has collected a lot of information about Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ in this book. Generally, the masses are unaware of this. Allâh willing, this book will serve to add to their knowledge. May Allâh accept his effort.

Muhammad Abû Bakr Ghâzîpûrî

¹ Hadrat is an Urdu term used before the name of a luminary, whether a *nâbi*, a *sâhabî*, a scholar or pious person. It is translated as 'dignified', 'superior', etc. It has been left untranslated because it generates more respect and honour for the person it refers to. It is used mainly in Urdu works and is used throughout this book as well. - [T]

FOREWORD

Hadrat Maulânâ 'Abdul 'Alîm Fârûqî Lakhnawî dâmat barakâtuhu, Son of Imâm Ahl us Sunnah

Muslims believe in the appearance of *Mahdî* based upon the *Ahâdîth* and *Âthâr*² narrated in this regard. The scholars of before clarified this reality which is not hidden from the scholarly class.

Today, opinions are expressed in various ways regarding this belief and accepted reality. This is not appropriate at all and cannot be regarded as service unto *dîn*³.

The honourable Hadrat Maulânâ Muftî Mahmûd Bârdoli (May Allâh protect him) has clarified this matter with great caution in the book before you. This service unto knowledge and *dîn* is worthy of appreciation. There will be great benefit for the *âlemâ'â* and the masses in the study of this book.

We make *du'a'* that Allâh keeps the honourable Muftî well and may He bless him with more divine ability. *

'Abdul 'Alîm Fârûqî
23 September 2004

² Plural of *Athar*. Majority of the scholars of *Hadîth* define *Athar* as 'that which is narrated from Rasûlullâh ﷺ, or the *sahâbah* ؓ or the *tâbi'în*, whether in *marfû'* or *mauqûf* form.' According to the jurists of Khurâsân, *Athar* only refers to *mauqûf* narrations. [Irshâd Uşûl ul Hadîth p.38] (The definitions of *marfû'* and *mauqûf* will be presented in the ensuing footnotes.) - [T]

³ Translated as 'religion'. Islâm encourages honour and respect for every part of it. Therefore, when discussing religious matters, the Arabic word is used most of the time. - [T]

FOREWORD

Muftî Ahmad Khânpûrî dâmat barakâtuhu
Head Muftî of Jâmi'a Dâbhel

None is aware of the actual time of occurrence of *Qiyâmah* except Allâh ﷺ. It is narrated in *Hadîth e Jibril*⁴ that Hadrat Jibril ﷺ asked Nabi ﷺ, "When will *Qiyâmah* occur?" Nabi ﷺ replied, "The questioned about it is no more knowledgeable than the questioner."

The meaning of this is that I am unaware of the correct time just as you are. However, there are various signs of *Qiyâmah* that have been explained in the Qur'ân and *Hadîth*. These have been classified into two categories by the *âlemâ'*, namely, *'âlâmât e sughrâ* (the minor signs) and *'âlâmât e kubrâ* (the major signs). The appearance of the *Mahdî* is explained to be the first of the major signs.

In Arabic, *Mahdî* refers to someone who is guided. Considering this meaning, there has been many and will be many who would be titled *Mahdî*. The *Mahdî* that is discussed concerning *Qiyâmah* is a special individual. A lot of detail about this *Mahdî* is found in different *Ahâdîth*. Consequently, scholars have been lifting their pens, writing about this promised *Mahdî* from a long time already. As *Qiyâmah* approaches and Muslims on an international level undergo different tests and calamities, naturally, the desire for the promised *Mahdî* increases. Taking this internal condition and fervour of the Muslims into consideration,

⁴ *Hadîth e Jibril* is a lengthy *Hadîth* recorded in *Sahîh Muslim* and other *Hadîth* collections. It details an incident that took place towards the end of the life of Rasûlullâh ﷺ in which Hadrat Jibril ﷺ came to Rasûlullâh ﷺ in the form of a man and posed various questions about Islâm, *îmân*, *ihsân* and *Qiyâmah*. - [T]

many people spread baseless theories about the appearance of the promised *Mahdî*. It is necessary in these conditions to inform the people of the authentic narrations regarding the promised *Mahdî*.

Consequently, Muftî Mahmûd Bârdolî (May Allâh protect him) has prepared this treatise after studying the *Ahâdîth* and the commentaries thereof, as well as the previous books [written - (T)] on this subject. Allâh willing, it will be of benefit, and we hope that it will prove to be a guide. May Allâh greatly accept this effort. Âmîn

Dictated by:

(Muftî) Ahmad Khânpûrî
6 Dhu al Qa'dah 1427

AUTHOR'S PREFACE

Qiyâmah is a certainty. However, we have not been informed of a specific date concerning its occurrence. Nevertheless, special signs of it have been explained clearly in the Qur'ân and *Hadîth*. A major sign from amongst these is the appearance of *Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ. A number of Muslims are desirous of the appearance of the *Mahdî* considering the conditions that the Muslim *ummah* faces today. 'Allâmah Safârînî رحمه الله states:

أي من العلامات العظمى وهي أولاً أن يظهر الإمام المقتدى الخاتم للأئمة

محمد المهدي (لوائح الأنوار البهية)

The appearance of the *Imâm* to be followed, Leader of *Imâms*, *Muhammad Mahdî* is the first sign from the major ones (close to *Qiyâmah*).

Also, the appearance of the *Mahdî* is a reality that there is no reason to deny it. Approximately five years ago, the members of the consultation committee of Jâmi'a Islamia Ta'lîm ud Dîn, Dâbhel/Simlak decided to establish a department that would specialize in refuting the deviated sects. The changed name of this department is '*Tahâffuz e Shari'ah*'.⁵ The subject of '*Ihtisâb e Qâdiyâniyyat*'⁶ fell to the lot of the author as part of this department. From amongst the various claims made by Mirzâ Qâdiyânî is the claim of being the *Mahdî* and *Masîh*. When I

⁵ 'Protection of the Shari'ah'

⁶ 'Scrutiny of Qâdiyânism'

made the students of Hadîth write the following subject matter (backed by proof):

'Leave out *Masîh* and *Mahdi*, Mirzâ can never be a respected human being. Also, none of the descriptions of *Mahdi* that are explained in the Ahâdîth fit Mirzâ Qâdiyânî in any way whatsoever.', it came across my heart that the subject matter related to the *Mahdi* should be collected separately and be presented to the *ummah*. With this purpose in mind, an effort was made to collect all the authentic and established information about the *Mahdi*. At the same time, 'weak' information would be alluded to.

Much incorrect information has become famous and common right into our circles. For example, there will be an announcement from the sky when the *Mahdi* appears and there will be an eclipse in the month of *Ramadân*. Effort has been made to provide authentic guidance about this as well. References from the books I have benefited from have also been provided.

Concerning the Ahâdîth on this subject, some people have said, 'All the clear Ahâdîth with regards to *Mahdi* are not authentic, and those that are authentic are not clear.' Maulânâ 'Abdur Rahmân Bâwâ – an active member of '*Âlamî Majlis Tahaffuz e Khatm e Nubuwwah*', London – gifted '*Aqîda Zuhûr e Mahdi Ahâdîth kî Roshnî me*' of Muftî Nizâm ud Dîn Shâmzî Shahîd ﷺ to me. Muftî Nizâm ud Dîn Shâmzî ﷺ had collected approximately fifty Ahâdîth on this subject in this book. He went to great lengths in the explanation of the narrators of each Hadîth. By means of this, the baseless reality of these statements became clear. The famous research scholar, Muftî Muhammad Taqî 'Uthmânî greatly praised this book in an article published in '*Al Balâgh*' (written upon the martyrdom of Muftî

Nizâm ud Dîn Shâmzî). The author (Muftî Bardolî) has taken maximum benefit from this book concerning the Ahâdîth on this subject. I have provided the names and references of the Ahâdîth books and commentaries of the scholars of Hadîth that are quoted here. Once the manuscript of this book was prepared, I handed it to my affectionate mentors, Hadîrat Maulânâ Abû Bakr Ghâzîpûrî and Hadîrat Maulânâ 'Abd al 'Alîm Fârûqî (May Allâh bless them in their lives). They provided certain guidelines as well. Muftî Rashîd Ahmad Farîdî, Shaykh al Hadîth Maulânâ Mujtabâ Lûlât, Shaykh Talha Minyâr Makki and my honorable brother, Muftî As'ad Khânpûrî also improved and corrected it. My second affectionate mentor, Maulânâ Muftî Ahmad Khânpûrî also read the manuscript and wrote a foreword to it as well. Maulânâ Hafîz Qârî Al Hâj Fârûqî Bambawî also strove in every way in the preparation of this book. May Allâh ﷺ reward them with the best of rewards.

A table, referencing the Ahâdîth quoted here has been placed at the end of the book. (This has been left out in this translation) – [T] This is to facilitate more research on this subject. Finally, I place my scholarly weakness and my limited knowledge of the Urdu language before the readers, due to which, many mistakes would be found. It is hoped that the readers will inform us of these so that they can be corrected in future editions.

May Allâh save me from the evil of my shallow intentions and bad deeds, and may He bless this book with acceptance.

وآخر دعوانا أن الحمد لله رب العلمين

Mahmûd bin Maulânâ Sulaymân Hâfizjî, Bârdolî Jâmi'a Islamia Ta'lim ud Dîn, Dâbhel/Simlak, Gujarat



QIYĀMAH AND THE SIGNS OF QIYĀMAH

The advent of *Qiyāmah* is a certainty. Many people throughout the world believe and accept the concept of *Qiyāmah* in some form or the other. For us Muslims, the advent of *Qiyāmah* is a very important belief from amongst the foundational beliefs. However, knowledge of the specific time at which *Qiyāmah* will come to pass lies solely with Allāh ﷺ. In *Sûrah Luqmân* Allāh ﷺ states,

إِنَّ اللَّهَ عِنْدَهُ عِلْمُ السَّاعَةِ

Verily the knowledge of (when) Qiyāmah (will come) is only with Allāh. [Sûrah Luqmân 31:34]

In *Sûrah al A'râf* (the High Wall), Allāh ﷺ states, يَسْأَلُونَكَ عَنِ السَّاعَةِ أَيَّانَ مُرْسَاهَا قُلْ إِنَّمَا عِلْمُهَا عِنْدَ رَبِّي لَا يَجِدُهَا لَوْقَتُهَا إِلَّا هُوَ

*They ask you (O Muhammad ﷺ) about *Qiyāmah*, when will it occur? Say, "The knowledge of this is with my Rabb (only Allāh knows when it will occur). Only He will make it appear in its time. [Sûrah al A'râf (the High Wall) 7: 187]*

The Quraysh of Makkah Mukarramah used to ask Rasûlullâh ﷺ concerning *Qiyāmah*, sometimes using family ties (as a pretext to get a convincing reply), and sometimes using the

question of *Qiyāmah* as a yardstick of his *nubuwwah*. They asked, "If you are truly a messenger, then why do you not inform us of which year and which date will *Qiyāmah* occur?" However, every time they received the same reply that, the knowledge of it lies solely with my *Rabb*. No angel or messenger was given knowledge about it. Ibn Kathîr رحمه الله writes in clarification of this,

أَيْ لَيْسَ عِلْمَهَا إِلَيْكَ ، وَلَا إِلَى أَحَدٍ مِّنَ الْخَلْقِ ، بَلْ مَرْدُهَا وَمَرْجِعُهَا إِلَى اللَّهِ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ ، فَهُوَ الَّذِي يَعْلَمُ وَقْتَهَا عَلَى التَّعْيِنِ . تَفْسِيرُ إِبْنِ كَثِيرٍ ٤/٢٥

"The knowledge of *Qiyāmah* lies not with you, nor with any of the creation. The knowledge of it is with Allāh. He alone is aware of it and its precise time."⁷

The Noble Qur'ân has explained this reality with just this much clarity. Despite this, many people involve themselves in researching the time of the advent of *Qiyāmah*. They mix *Isrâ'ilî*⁸ and other narrations, and spend their entire worldly existence in the futile effort of researching and specifying the time of *Qiyāmah*. This is useless and to no avail. Allāh ﷺ further admonished such people,

لَا تَأْتِيْكُمْ إِلَّا بَعْثَةٌ

(It) will appear suddenly. [Sûrah al A'râf (the High Wall) 7: 187]

⁷ Tafsîr Ibn Kathîr vol.4 p.425

⁸ In the exegesis of certain Qur'ânic verses we find statements of Jews and Christians regarding their history and explanation of certain events. We have been commanded by Rasûlullâh ﷺ not to verify them or to belie them, but to believe in what Allâh ﷺ and His Messenger ﷺ have told us. - [T]

It will come upon you in such a manner that none will have the slightest thought of it.

عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه أن رسول الله صل الله عليه وسلم قال : لا تقوم الساعة حتى تطلع الشمس من مغربها ، فإذا طلعت ورأها الناس آمنوا أجمعون ، فذلك لا ينفع نفساً إيمانها لم تكن آمنت من قبل أو كسبت في إيمانها خيراً . ولتقوم الساعة وقد نشر الرجال ثورها بينها فلا يتبعانه ولا يطربانه ، ولتقوم الساعة وقد انصرف الرجل بلبن لقحته فلا يطعمه ، ولتقوم الساعة وهو يلقي حوضه فلا يسقي فيه ، ولتقوم الساعة وقد رفع أكلته إلى فيه فلا يطعمها . صحيح البخاري ٢٩٦٣

Hadrat Abū Hurayrah ﷺ narrates that Rasūlullāh ﷺ said, "Qiyāmah will not occur until the sun rises from the west. When the sun rises from the west and the people will see it, they will all believe. However, it will be that time in which the belief (imān) of none will be accepted. Qiyāmah will come upon you so suddenly that two people will be involved in the sale of material. They will not be able to complete the transaction nor will they be able to fold the material. Qiyāmah will come upon you so suddenly that a person will take up his utensil of his animal's milk but he will not be able to drink it. Qiyāmah will come upon you so suddenly that a person will be cleaning his pond for water but he will not be able to use it. Qiyāmah

will come upon you so suddenly that a person will lift up a morsel to eat but he will not be able to eat it."¹⁹

In summary, the knowledge of the precise moment of Qiyāmah lies with Allāh ﷺ alone. However, Allāh ﷺ has informed us of many signs through His truthful messenger. Our belief is that the word of Allāh ﷺ is definite, and whatever Allāh ﷺ has informed us will undoubtedly happen. This system of the universe is subservient to the command of Allāh ﷺ. It is for this reason that before Qiyāmah, the world will change according to what we have been told in the Qur'ān and Hadith. Allāh ﷺ states,

لَا تَنْبَدِيلَ لِكَلَمَاتِ اللَّهِ

There is nothing that can change the words (decrees and promises) of Allāh. [Sūrah Yūnus 10:64]

Therefore, the occurrence of all the signs of Qiyāmah that have been explained is definite. Many of them have already happened. Some are happening and many others will occur on their respective times.

It must be noted that information with regards to the signs of Qiyāmah is found in the books of Hadith under the chapter, 'Kitab al Fitān wa Ashrāṭus Sā'ā'. They should be referenced. 'An Nihayah' (with marginal notes and cross references) of Ibn Kathīr is available in Arabic. Similarly, 'Al Ishā'ā li Ashrāṭ As Sā'ā' of Sayyed Ahmad (in Arabic) is at our disposal. We should also study 'Asr e Hādir Hadīth e Nabawī kī Roshnī me' and 'Alāmāt e Qiyāmat' of Shāh Rafī' ud Dīn Dehlawī, both in Urdu.

THE SIGNS OF QIYÂMAH

There are two types of signs that are explained in the Qur'ân and Hadith:

1. *Alâmât e Sughrâ* (The Minor Signs)
2. *Alâmât e Kubrâ* (The Major Signs)

1. *Alâmât e Sughrâ* (The Minor Signs)

They can also be called *Alâmât e Ba 'îda* (The Far Signs). These signs will appear before *Qiyâmah*, but it is not necessary that after their appearance *Qiyâmah* will occur soon thereafter.

2. *Alâmât e Kubrâ* (The Major Signs)

They can also be called *Alâmât e Qarîba* (The Close Signs). These signs will appear close to the advent of *Qiyâmah* in conflict with normal occurrences. It will become clear upon witnessing these signs that *Qiyâmah* is not far away.¹⁰ The emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ is from among the major signs of this second type.

The emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ is a definite certainty. His ﷺ emergence will be a cause for advancement and prosperity in the Muslim *ummah*. He will fulfill major tasks after his emergence. They include the protection of *dîn*, the spreading of *dîn*, the restoration of *dîn* and the revival of *dîn*. The *ummah* would have been involved in these activities from before, but due to the prevalent conditions, weakness would have set in. He ﷺ will serve to remove this weakness, set these particular tasks in motion, and take them forward.

¹⁰ As understood from *Fath al Bârî* vol.11 p.428

THE PROTECTION OF *DÎN*

The purpose of creating this world is to recognize Allâh, practice upon those things that please Him, and attain success in this world as well as the hereafter by means of it. Allâh ﷺ sent a number of messengers to this world in order to fulfill this purpose. Every messenger conveyed the message of Allâh ﷺ to His servants in their respective eras. They left this world after fulfilling their duties.

The laws that were given to the messengers of before applied to certain times and certain places only. Finally, Allâh ﷺ sent the final messenger, Hadrat Muhammad ﷺ. The *dîn* that Allâh ﷺ sent with His final messenger is a comprehensive mode of action, a complete law of life and a *dîn* never to be abrogated.

Once the Qur'ân has been declared to be the final message of Allâh ﷺ, then the demand of its eternity and universality is that it remain protected so that every man and *jinn* until the day of *Qiyâmah* can derive benefit from it. For this reason, Allâh ﷺ has taken up the responsibility of protecting the Qur'ân. Allâh ﷺ explains thus,

إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا الْذِكْرَ وَإِنَّا لَهُ لَحَافِظُونَ

Without doubt only We have revealed the Reminder (the Qur'ân) and (by various means) We shall certainly be its protectors (ensuring that it remains unchanged throughout time). [Sûrah al Hîjrah 15:9]

'Qur'ân' refers not only to the words. Rather, it implies both word and meaning. Due to this, the promise of protection from every form of alteration and its responsibility stands for the meaning and subject matter of the Qur'ân just as it does for the

words. By protection, both knowledge and practice is meant. Correct practice will remain protected just as correct knowledge will remain protected. This is among the specialties of only the Qur'ân. The responsibility of protecting the other heavenly books was given over to those upon whom it was revealed. Allâh ﷺ states with regard to this,

بِمَا اسْتُحْفِظُوا مِنْ كِتَابِ اللَّهِ وَكَانُوا عَلَيْهِ شُهَدَاءِ

Because they were instructed to preserve Allâh's book and they were witnesses to it. [Sûrah al Mâ'idah (the Set Table) 5:44]

As long as the *ahbâr*¹¹ fulfilled their responsibility of protecting the *Taurâh*, the *Taurâh* remained protected. Once it fell into the hands of those who worshipped the world, it was interpolated and destroyed.

The summary of this discussion is that the words, meanings, and purport of the Qur'ân is divinely protected. It will not be deleted by anybody's deletion, it will not be suppressed by anybody's suppression, it will not become worthless on the basis of somebody's objections, and its call will not be stopped by anybody trying to stop it.

Due to the grace of Allâh ﷺ, there will always be a vast group of people in every era that will be practicing upon the *shari'ah*. They will become embodiments of this formidable *dîn* and will fulfill the task of its protection and spread in every era.

¹¹ A title of the Jewish scholars, also used in the Qur'ân. – [T]

The following *Hadîth* explains this,
لَا تزال طائفة من أمتى قائمة بأمر اللَّهِ، لَا يضرهم من خذلهم أو خالقهم،
حتى يأتي أمر اللَّهِ وهم ظاهرون على الناس . صحيح مسلم ٢/٤٣

There will always remain a group from amongst my ummah who will be established upon the command of Allâh. They will not be harmed by those who abandon them, or by those who are against them. This group will remain such until the command of Allâh happens.¹²

Another narration states as follows,
لَا تزال طائفة من أمتى منصوريين على الحق، لَا يضرهم من خذلهم حتى تقوم الساعة . جامع الترمذى ٧/٤٣

There will always be a group from my ummah that will be aided upon the truth. Those who abandon them will not harm them. (This) will remain until Qiyâmah.¹³

Therefore, there will always be a group from this ummah who will strive to raise the truth, and the leader of this group in its particular time will be *Hadrat Mahdi* ﷺ.

¹² Sahîh Muslim vol.2 p.143
¹³ Jâmi' at Tirmidhî vol.2 p.43

OVER WHAT TYPE OF PEOPLE WILL QIYÂMAH
TAKE PLACE AND THE RECONCILIATION
BETWEEN THE TWO TYPES OF AHÂDÎTH
PERTAINING TO IT

We come to understand from the two narrations above that there will always be a group of the pious servants of Allâh until *Qiyâmah*, and they will be occupied in the great objective of raising the word of Allâh ﷺ. However, a narration of *Sahîh Muslim* states the following,

لَا تَقُومُ السَّاعَةُ حَتَّىٰ لَا يُقَالُ فِي الْأَرْضِ أَلَّا إِلَهَ إِلَّا

Qiyâmah will not happen until 'Allâh, Allâh' will not be said on earth.

Similarly,

لَا تَقُومُ السَّاعَةُ عَلَىٰ أَحَدٍ يَقُولُ: أَلَّا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ . صَحِيحُ مُسْلِمٍ ١/٨٤

Qiyâmah will not happen upon any person who says, 'Allâh, Allâh'.

And,

وَلَا تَقُومُ السَّاعَةُ إِلَّا عَلَىٰ شَرِّ النَّاسِ . إِنْ مَاجَةٌ ٣٠٢

Qiyâmah will not happen except upon the worst of people.¹⁴

From these narrations, we come to understand that *Qiyâmah* will happen upon the worst of people. Pious people will not be in existence at that time.

The apparent contradiction between the two types of narrations can be explained in this way that words like 'until the Day of *Qiyâmah*' and 'until *Qiyâmah* happens' does not refer to the Day of *Qiyâmah* per se. It refers to a major sign of *Qiyâmah*,

¹⁴ Sunan Ibn Mâjah p.302

i.e. the descent of Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ. If this meaning is considered, then we come to know that this group will always remain on earth until the descent of Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ. After the descent of Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ, these people will gradually pass away and *Qiyâmah* will happen upon the worst of people.¹⁵

KHILÂFAH

عَنْ سَعِيدِ بْنِ جَهَانَ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ قَالَ: حَدَّثَنِي سَفِينَةُ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: الْخَلَافَةُ فِي أُمَّتِي ثَلَاثُونَ سَنَةً، ثُمَّ مَلَكَ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ، ثُمَّ قَالَ لِي سَفِينَةً: أَمْسَكْ خَلَافَةً أَبِي بَكْرَ شَمَّ قَالَ: وَخَلَافَةً عَمْرَ وَخَلَافَةً عُثْمَانَ ثُمَّ قَالَ: أَمْسَكْ خَلَافَةً عَلَيْهِ، فَوَجَدْنَاهَا ثَلَاثِينَ سَنَةً . قَالَ سَعِيدٌ: فَقُلْتُ لَهُ: إِنَّ بَنِي أُمَّيَّةَ يَزْعُمُونَ "أَنَّ الْخَلَافَةَ فِيهِمْ" قَالَ: كَذَبُوا بِنْوَ الزَّرْقَاءِ، بَلْ هُمْ مُلُوكٌ مِنْ شَرِّ الْمُلُوكِ . جَامِعُ التَّرمِذِيِّ ٢/٤٦

It is narrated from Sa'îd bin Jamhâr رضي الله عنه that he said, "Safina سفينة narrated to me. He said, "Rasûlullâh ﷺ said," Khilâfah will remain in my ummah for thirty years. After that, there will be kingdom." Safina سفينة then said to me, "Calculate the period of the khilâfah of Abû Bakr, then the khilâfah of Umar, Uthmân and 'Ali." We found it to be thirty years. I then said to Safina, "The Banû Umayyah claim that the

¹⁵ Refer to *Nawâdir al Fiqh* vol.1 p.132-133 for further clarification

*khilâfah lies with them*¹⁶. " *Safîna* ﷺ replied, "Banû Zurqâ has lied. They are the worst of kings."

Hadrat Maulânâ Rashîd Ahmad Gangohî رحمۃ اللہ علیہ writes in the commentary of this Hadith,

أى : الخلافة المرضية إنما هي للذين صدقوا الإسلام بأعماهم وتسكوا بستنة النبي صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم . حواشی الكوكب الدری ۲/۵۵ وحواشی على جامع الترمذی ۲/۴۶ وهكذا في مجمع بحار الأنوار ۲/۹۲

The prized *khilâfah* is the one that is established by those who attested to Islâm by way of action, and those who firmly held onto the *Sunnah*.¹⁸

Hadrat Umar ﷺ states that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "There will be *nubuwwah* and mercy for a specific time. Then there will be *khilâfah* and mercy for a specific time."

The words, 'Khilâfah upon the nature of *nubuwwah*' appear in other narrations.¹⁹

Hadrat Muhammad ﷺ is the final messenger of Allâh ﷺ. There is no messenger to come after him. By fulfilling the objective of his prophet hood (recital of the verses, purification of the self, and teaching of the Qur'ân and *Sunnah*) in his lifetime,

¹⁶ Meaning that the *khilâfah* runs only in their family

¹⁷ Jâmi' at Tirmidhî vol.2 p.46

¹⁸ Marginal notes of Al Kaukab Ad Durrî vol.2 p.55, Marginal notes of Jâmi' at Tirmidhî vol.2 p.46, Majma' Bihâr al Anwâr vol.2 p.92

¹⁹ Mustadrak Hâkim vol.4 p.520, Hadith 8459

Rasûlullâh ﷺ presented a comprehensive *dîn* and honourable society before mankind. Together with this, he established an equitable and just governmental system that was in accordance to the pleasure of Allâh ﷺ. The personality of Rasûlullâh ﷺ enabled him to stand at the head of both *Imâmat e Sughrâ* (leading the *salâh*) and *Imâmat e Kubrâ* (government). The system of government established by Rasûlullâh ﷺ in accordance to divine revelation cannot be found in any other era.

This system of government remained in the world after the demise of Rasûlullâh ﷺ. This system is referred to as 'Khilâfah'. The person at the head of this system is known as the 'Khalifah'. In reality, *Khilâfah* is that system that is in total compliance to the teachings of *nubuwwah*, it has all the characteristics of the system laid down by Rasûlullâh ﷺ, and it runs according to the way shown in the era of Rasûlullâh ﷺ.

Hadrat Shâh Waliullâh Mu Dehlawî رحمۃ اللہ علیہ defines *Khilâfah*:

'Khilâfah' is that general leadership that revives religious knowledge (teaching of Qur'ân and Hadîth, lecturing and advice) using means of propagation. It establishes the fundamental components of Islâm (like the five times daily *salâh*, *jumu'âh* and the *imâmat* thereof, collection and distribution of *zakâh*, appointment of *âmilîn*, giving or accepting testimony of the *Ramadân* crescent, the laws of *Ramadân* and *Id* that follow, the arrangements for *Hajj* etc). (The *khalifah*) should personally (as the representative of Rasûlullâh ﷺ) enact *jihâd* and all related matters, fulfill the responsibilities of court, establish *hudûd* (mete out sentences for crimes, murders, false accusations etc. - [T]),

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destroy oppression and command the good and forbid evil. (Actively) fulfilling these duties is called *Khilâfah*.²⁰

Imâm Ahl us Sunnah Maulânâ 'Abd ush Shakûr Lakhnawî states with regards to *Khilâfah*,

'*Khilâfah* means representative. The person who sits in as a deputy and fulfills his role is called a *khalifah*. In the terminology of the *shari'ah*, *Khilâfah* refers to that kingdom that exists for the 'establishment of the *dîn* of Rasûlullâh ﷺ and enforces the laws of *dîn*.'

It is known from the above that rule is necessary for *khilâfah*, such rule that has the capacity to serve as the representative of Rasûlullâh ﷺ.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE *KHILÂFAH*

It was very important and necessary that the *khilâfah* and *khalifah* remained in this *ummah*. The importance of this fact can be realized from this that the delay in burial of Rasûlullâh ﷺ after his demise was because of appointing the *khalifah*. The shrouding and burial of Rasûlullâh ﷺ only started once Hadrat Abû Bakr ؓ was appointed the *khalifah* by the consensus of the *sahâbah* ؓ. This was done in the light of the clear indications (by speech and action) of Rasûlullâh ﷺ.

Hadrat Shâh Waliullâh ﷺ explains concerning this, "The attention of the *sahâbah* ؓ was directed to the appointment of the *khalifah* before the burial of Rasûlullâh ﷺ. Therefore, we learn that if the *sahâbah* ؓ did not know of the compulsion of appointing the *khalifah* in the light of *shari'ah*, (and of the

²⁰ *Izâlatul Khifâ'* vol.1 p.19

prohibition of delaying it), then they would have definitely not given preference to it over the burial of Rasûlullâh ﷺ.²¹

He ﷺ also states,

'It is *fard e kifâyah* upon the Muslims to appoint such a *khalifah* that is an embodiment of the conditions of *khilâfah*, and it will remain *fard* until *Qiyâmah*.²²

KHALÎFAH

A *khalifah* is the true representative of Rasûlullâh ﷺ. He is embellished with prophetic knowledge and qualities. He also has complete understanding of the Qur'ân and *Hadîth* and is an embodiment of the *Sunnah*. His heart should be filled with concern for humanity just like Nabi ﷺ. It is necessary that the *khalifah* be a Muslim, male, intelligent, mature, just, free, a speaker, listener, seer and he should also have the ability to make *ijtihâd*.²³

KHILÂFAH AR RÂSHIDA

Hadrat Abû Bakr ؓ guided the *ummah* by taking the reins of *khilâfah* by the consensus of the *muhâjirîn* (emigrants) and *ansâr* (helpers) in very trying times. His reign as *khalifah* lasted two years, three months and thirteen days.

²¹ *Izâlatul Khifâ'* vol.1 p.21

²² *Ibid* vol.1 p.19

²³ *Ibid*

Hadrat Abū Bakr ﷺ appointed Hadrat 'Umar ﷺ as the *khalifah* after him. His reign lasted ten years, and approximately six months. Hadrat 'Umar ﷺ appointed a council - that would consult regarding the *khalifah* - comprising of Hadrat 'Uthmān ﷺ, Hadrat 'Ali ﷺ, Hadrat 'Abdur Rahmān bin 'Auf ﷺ, Hadrat Talha ﷺ, Hadrat Zubayr ﷺ, and Hadrat Sa'd bin Abi Waqqās ﷺ after he was stabbed by Abu Lu'lu' - the fire worshipper - during the Fajr *salāh*.²⁴

They appointed Hadrat 'Uthmān ﷺ as the *khalifah* after consultation and deliberation. The duration of the *khilāfah* of Hadrat 'Uthmān ﷺ was approximately twelve years. After the rebels assassinated Hadrat 'Uthmān ﷺ, Hadrat 'Ali ﷺ was made the *khalifah* upon the insistence of the *muhājirīn* and *ansār*. The period of his *khilāfah* was four years and nine months.

The *khilāfah* of these four luminaries remained upon the way of Rasūlullāh ﷺ and all the conditions that determine a true *khalifah* was found in each one of them. They made the purpose of *khilāfah* apparent in the most complete form. We refer to this blessed era as the '*Khilāfah ar Rāshida'*, and the four *khulafā'* of this era are referred to as the '*Khulafā' ar Rāshidin*'. These four *khulafā'* fulfilled the rights of the *khilāfah*, and in so doing, established the ideal state. They did so much that work of this nature was not to be found in the history of mankind except like that done by the messengers [May peace and blessings be upon them].

A large group from among the *sahābah* ﷺ and the *tābi'īn* appointed Hadrat Hasan bin 'Ali ﷺ as the *khalifah*. Hadrat Hasan ﷺ held the reins of *khilāfah* for six months. Once six months were

²⁴ Al Bidāyah wa An Nihāyah vol.7 p.144

over, he stepped down from this great position saying, "Rasūlullāh ﷺ said, 'Khilāfah will remain for thirty years after me.' The six months left for the thirty years to be completed have passed."

It was as if the *khilāfah* of Hadrat Hasan ﷺ was the completion of the *khilāfah* of Hadrat 'Ali ﷺ.

قال العلماء : "لم يكن في الثلاثين بعده صلح الله عليه وسلم إلا الخلفاء الأربع وأيام الحسن" . تاريخ الخلفاء ١٠

The *ulemā'* have stated, 'There is no era included in the thirty years after Rasūlullāh ﷺ except the rule of the four *khulafā'* and Hasan'.²⁵

والحسن آخر الخلفاء بنصه . تاريخ الخلفاء ١٣١

And Hasan (ﷺ) is clearly the last *khilāfah*.²⁶

In this way, the thirty years of '*khilāfah* upon the nature of *nubuwwah*' was completed. Consequently, Maulānā Manzūr Ahmad Nu'mānī رحمه اللہ از اہل سنت writes in the explanation of the following narration of Sunan Abū Dāwūd²⁷,

خلافة النبوة ثلاثون سنة

Khilāfah upon the nature of nubuwwah is for thirty years
"The martyrdom of Hadrat 'Ali ﷺ took place in precisely the thirtieth year after the demise of Rasūlullāh ﷺ. His elder son, Hadrat Hasan ﷺ became the *khalifah* after him. However, in order to finish off the infighting among the Muslims, he stepped down from the *khilāfah* and reconciled with Hadrat Mu'āwiyah

²⁵ Tārikh al Khulafā' p.10

²⁶ Ibid p.131

²⁷ Chapter on the *Khulafā'*, p.638, Hadith 4647

handing the *khilâfah* over to him. All this was in accordance to the prophesy of Rasûlullâh ﷺ.

Thirty years will be complete upon the inclusion of these few months of *khilâfah* held by Hadrat Hasan رضي الله عنه. Hence, '*khilâfah* upon the nature of *nubuwwah*' and '*khilâfah ar râshida*' - referred to as '*khilâfah an nubuwwah*' in the Ahâdîth - remained for these thirty years. After this, changes set in the method of action and gradually monarchy tainted '*khilâfah* upon the nature of *nubuwwah*'.

This Hadîth is a miracle of Rasûlullâh ﷺ and a proof of his *nubuwwah* just like the other prophesies he had made. He ﷺ gave information about events that happened after his demise and there was no outward means of coming to know of it. It is quite apparent that he ﷺ received this knowledge from Allâh ﷺ by means of *wahî*.²⁸

THE SECOND STAGE OF KHILÂFAH AFTER THE KHILÂFAH AR RÂSHIDA

Another stage of *khilâfah* began after the *khilâfah ar râshida*. It is also called monarchy or kingdom. This *khilâfah* began with the Banû Umayyah, it was carried on by the Banu 'Abbâs and it ended due to a grand plot while held by the Ottomans in 1921. Firmness upon the method of Rasûlullâh ﷺ in this second era was not to the degree to which it was found in the era of the *khilâfah ar râshida*. The *khâlifah* and other leaders began to commit many punishable acts in the light of *shari'ah*. In addition, many weaknesses came about in the system of government.

²⁸ Ma'ârif ul Hadîth vol.7 p.244

Despite this, we refer to this second era as '*Khilâfah Islâmiya*' because the Muslim lands were not converted into *Dâr al Harb* in this era. There was a religious system in place that was run for Islâm on a collective scale. The enemies were forced to think twice before turning the Muslims into a single fresh morsel, as is the case today. The *khilâfah* served to protect the *dîn* and the *shari'ah* and it stood guard over the Muslim world. Today, we Muslims passionately perceive the importance of the *khilâfah* since it is not in existence. Considering these excellent characteristics, Rasûlullâh ﷺ also emphasized obedience to the *khulafâ'* of this era in governmental affairs so that this system is not weakened in any way. In the light of the emphatic instructions of Rasûlullâh ﷺ, the *sahâbah* رضي الله عنهم, *tâbi'în* and sages humbled themselves and pledged allegiance to these rulers in governmental affairs and they did not rebel.

Hadrat Shâh Waliullâh ﷺ states,
'It is *harâm* to rebel against the ruler after he has been unanimously elected, even though all the conditions for *khilâfah* are not found in him, except in the instance where clear *kufr* is established from him.'²⁹

He ﷺ further explains,
'It is necessary to execute the commands of the ruler that deal with the general benefit of the Muslims and it is not in conflict with the *shari'ah*. It matters not whether the ruler is just or not.'³⁰

This system of *khilâfah* remained for approximately thirteen centuries. This was the second stage of the *khilâfah*.

²⁹ Izâlatul Khîfâ' vol.1 p.28

³⁰ Ibid

THE FIVE ERAS OF THE MUSLIM UMMAH

عن حذيفة بن اليمان رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : "إن أول دينكم نبوة ورحمة وتكون فيكم ما شاء الله أن تكون ، ثم يرفعها الله جل جلاله . ثم تكون خلافة على منهاج النبوة ما شاء الله أن تكون ، ثم يرفعها الله جل جلاله . ثم يكون ملكا عاضفا فيكون ما شاء الله أن يكون ، ثم يرفعه الله جل جلاله . ثم تكون ملكا جبرية فتكون ما شاء الله أن تكون ، ثم يرفعه الله جل جلاله . ثم تكون خلافة على منهاج النبوة ، تعمل في الناس بسنة النبي ويلقى الإسلام بجرانه في الأرض ، يرضي عنها ساكن السماء وساكن الأرض ، لا تدع السماء من قطر إلا صبته مدرارا ، ولا تدع الأرض من نباتها ويركتها شيئا لا آخر جته". رواه أحمد في مسنده في حديث التعمان بن بشير رضي الله عنه . رقم الحديث ١٨٣٦٦ والبيهقي في دلائل النبوة .

Hadrat Hudhayfah bin Yamân ﷺ says that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said,

- (1) "Your dîn began with nubuwwah and mercy. It will remain among you until Allâh wishes. Allâh will then take it away. [Consequently, Rasûlullâh ﷺ lived for sixty three years and passed away in Rabî 'al Awwal, 11 A.H]
- (2) Then khilâfah upon the nature of nubuwwah will be established. It will remain for as long as Allâh wishes, where after He will take it away [After the demise of Rasûlullâh ﷺ, the khilâfah upon the nature of nubuwwah remained for thirty years.]

- (3) Thereafter will be an era of harsh and strong kingdom. It will remain for as long as Allâh wishes, where after He will take it away [It began in 41 A.H and came to an end in 1338 A.H]
- (4) Then an oppressive kingdom will be formed. It will remain for as long as Allâh wishes, where after He will take it away [This is the fourth kingdom after the khilâfah came to an end in 1338 A.H]
- (5) Finally, the khilâfah ar râshida will once again return. It will be totally upon the nature of nubuwwah, and Islâm will place its neck upon the earth (Islâm will be established in the earth). The inhabitants of the earth and skies will be happy with the khilâfah of that time. Rain will fall in abundance and a lot of vegetation and blessings will come forth from the earth."³¹

The glad-tidings of the khilâfah upon the nature of nubuwwah in the latter times mentioned in this Hadîth is also related to the era of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ.

THE TWELVE KHULAFĀ'

عن جابر بن سمرة رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم "يكون من بعدي اثنا عشر أميرا" قال رضي الله عنه : ثم تكلم بشيء لم أفهمه ، فسئلته الذي يلبني فقال : قال "كلهم من قريش". هذا حديث حسن

صحيح . ترمذi ٢/٤٦ أبو داؤد ٢/٥٨٨

Jâbir bin Samurah ﷺ narrates that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "There will be twelve khalifahs after me." The narrator ﷺ says, "Rasûlullâh ﷺ then mentioned a few things that I did not understand. I then asked the person seated nearby. He said that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "They will all be from the Quraysh."³²

Another narration states,

"There is no messenger after me, however, there will be a great number of khulafâ'!"

Note: These twelve could be referred to as *khulafâ'*. It is as though the meaning of *khulifah* here is king or the head of the government.

Many interpretations have been provided for this *Hadîth*. The most preferred view is that it is not necessary for these twelve to come after Rasûlullâh ﷺ in sequence. In different eras until *Qiyâmah*, this number will be completed. The author of *Badhl ul Majhûd* states,

³² Jâmi' at Tirmidhî vol.2 p.46, Sunan Abû Dâwûd vol.2 p.588

قال البعض : المراد بهم الذين هم على سيرة الخلفاء (الراشدين) وآخرهم الامام المهدى ". بذل المجهود ١٠١/٥

Some scholars have said, 'This refers to those who will be upon the way of the *khulafâ' ar râshidîn*, the last of whom is Imâm Mahdi.³³

Hadrat Maulânâ Khalil Ahmâd Sahâranpûrî ﷺ has given preference to this view. Similarly, Imâm Suyûtî ﷺ and Shâh Waliullâh ﷺ also favour this view. This much is certain that the last of these twelve *khulafâ'* will be Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ. Consequently, Imâm Abû Dâwûd ﷺ has recorded the *Hadîth* of the twelve *khulafâ'* in *Kitâb al Mahdi*. In doing so, he has indicated that the twelfth *khulifah* is Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ.

Note: There is another view besides all the interpretations given. It states that the twelve *khulafâ'* refer to the leaders of the Banû Umayyah that ascended the throne after Hadrat Mu'âwiyah . It is as though the *Hadîth* means that the power and strength of Islâm as far as government is concerned will remain during the reign of these twelve, and that kingdom will remain during this time.

The names of these twelve are as follows,

1. Yazid bin Mu'âwiyah
2. Mu'âwiyah bin Yazid
3. 'Abdul Malik
4. Walid
5. Sulaymân
6. 'Umar bin 'Abdul 'Azîz
7. Yazid bin 'Abdul Malik

³³ *Badhl ul Majhûd* vol.5 p.101

8. Hishâm
9. Walîd bin Yazîd
10. Yazîd bin Walîd bin 'Abdul Mâlik
11. Ibrâhîm bin Walîd
12. Marwân bin Muhammâd

These twelve ruled during the reign of the Banû Umayyah. After them, the kingdom fell to the lot of the Banû 'Abbâs.

Another view concerning this is that the twelve refers to those twelve *khulafâ'* that will come after Hadrat Mahdi عليه السلام. Five are from the progeny of Hadrat Hasan عليه السلام and five from the progeny of Hadrat Husayn عليه السلام. After these ten, a pious person from the progeny of Hadrat Hasan عليه السلام will rule and his son after him. In this way, twelve are completed and all of them will be on the truth.³⁴

One view is that the twelve refers to the four *khulafâ'* *arâshidîn*, Hadrat Hasan عليه السلام, Hadrat Mu'âwiyah عليه السلام, Hadrat 'Abdullâh bin Zubayr عليه السلام and Hadrat 'Umar bin 'Abdul 'Azîz عليه السلام. They total eight. Then, Hadrat Mahdi 'Abbâsî عليه السلام and Hadrat Tâhir عليه السلام - who was very just. The rest are awaited. One of them is Hadrat Mahdi عليه السلام.³⁵

Note: The most important thing to understand at this time is that these twelve *khulafâ'* are not sinless (*ma'sûm*). They will also not be upon a status of *nubuwâh* or higher. Similarly, rule for them will not be with a special outstanding quality. Also, Muftî Yûsuf Ludhiyânwi رحمه الله states with regards to the 'Ithnâ 'Ashâr' Imâms of the *shî'a*,

³⁴ Majma' Bihâr ul Anwâr vol.1 pp.82-84

³⁵ Târikh ul Khulafâ' p.12

The *Ahl us Sunnah* also believe them to be personalities to be followed, except with two differences,

1. The *shî'as* believe them to be free from sin like the messengers, make obedience to them obligatory and understand them to be commanded by Allâh. These beliefs are special with the messengers (*Ambiyâ'*) according to the *Ahl us Sunnah*.
2. The rulings attributed to them are not correct. The narrators of these rulings cannot be relied upon.³⁶

REVIVAL OF DÎN AND MUJADDID

عن أبي علقة رحمه الله ، عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه فيما أعلم عن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم قال : إن الله يبعث لهذه الأمة على رأس كل مائة سنة مسجّد لها أمر دينها . مستدرك ٤/٥٦٨ . رقم الحديث ٨٥٩٣

Abû 'Alqamah رضي الله عنه narrates from *Abû Hurayrah* رضي الله عنه from that which he learnt from *Rasûlullâh* صلوات الله عليه, "Indeed Allâh will send for this ummâh such a person at the turn of each century who will revive their religious matters."³⁷

The protection of Islâm until *Qiyâmah* is a hidden system from Allâh صلوات الله عليه. This is an outstanding blessing for this *ummah*. However, satanic powers will try to interpolate this religion in every era.

³⁶ Al Mahdi wal Masîh p.23

³⁷ Mustadrak vol.4 p.568

Harshness and extremism (positive and negative) is the foundation for the beginning of interpolation. Interpreting the *dīn* in accordance to ones desires - away from the balanced way - and to explain *dīn* by means of incorrect viewpoints and deviation are the destructive sicknesses that become the means of depriving the *ummah* of true and original *dīn*. Allāh ﷺ has greatly favoured this *ummah* by establishing this *mujaddid* chain in order to keep this powerful *dīn* pure from every form of interpolation and heresy in every era.

TAJDĪD

Faqīh ul Ummah Muftī Mahmūd Ḥasan Gangohī ﷺ explains the meaning of *tajdīd e dīn* (revival of religion), 'Over time, certain laws of *shari'ah* were not given due attention. They were left out because of the overpowering of desires and lusts and the efforts of the carnal self and the devil. To illuminate them, turn ones attention to them and make an effort to practice upon them is referred to as *tajdīd e dīn*'.³⁸

THE QUALITIES OF A MUJADDID

- ❖ He is a true representative of Rasūlullāh ﷺ in knowledge and practice.
- ❖ He has been given a magnetic personality by Allāh ﷺ like that of a messenger.

³⁸ *Fatāwā Mahmūdiyyah* vol.15 p.129

- ❖ The hearts of people are drawn towards him on account of his lineage, family, character and habits.
- ❖ Due to his great *īmānī* insight, he can diagnose the sicknesses of the *ummah* and prepare a *modus operandi* to treat them in the light of the Qur'ān and *Hadīth*. He then executes it.
- ❖ He rips the veil of innovations and customs.
- ❖ He revives beliefs, worship, social etiquette, business dealings, character, and system of government. In fact, he revives every facet of life.
- ❖ He is not awed by anyone in proclaiming the truth.
- ❖ Allāh ﷺ places enthusiasm in people's hearts to obey and love him.
- ❖ Those who have concern for *dīn* surround him.
- ❖ He will face much opposition just as the messengers had to. Hardship will come his way too. Due to unseen help, the cloud of difficulties will slowly fade and his rule will gain ground in the world.
- ❖ A *mujaddid* has natural complete mastery over knowledge and recognition; he also has great insight into *dīn* and the *Sunnah*.
- ❖ The quality of *taqwā* and piety is perfect in him.
- ❖ A *mujaddid* spreads knowledge and he honours the scholars.
- ❖ Allāh ﷺ will create a special servant of His or a group in the *ummah* that possesses these qualities at the start of every century, or in every era. *Hadrat Mahdī* ﷺ is the final link in the blessed *mujaddid* chain. A *mujaddid* and *faqīh* of the recent past, *Hadrat Gangohī* ﷺ, explains,

٢٥٧ هو آخر مجده هذه الأمة . الكوكب الدرى

Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ will be the final *mujaddid* of this *ummah*.³⁹

Note: A *mujaddid* will come to know of his standing through *ilhâm* or by various signs that allude to him being a *mujaddid*. However, he will not reach the stage of *wahî*. Similarly, a *mujaddid* will be recognized because of the special work that he is involved in.⁴⁰

EMPHASIS UPON THE EMERGENCE OF HADRAT MAHDÎ ﷺ

The emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ is greatly emphasized in the *Ahâdîth*. Examples of this are presented below,

عن عبد الله بن مسعود رضي الله عنه عن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قال : "لو

لم يبق من الدنيا إلا يوم – قال : زائدة (الراوی) – لطول الله ذلك اليوم حتى

يبعث رجلا مني (أو قال) من أعلى بيتي ، يواطئ اسمه اسمي واسم أبيه اسم

أبي – زاد في حديث فطر : يملأ الأرض قسطا وعدلا كما ملئت ظلما وجورا"

أبو داؤد ، كتاب المهدى ٥٨٨/٢

Hadrat Abû Hurayrah ﷺ narrates from Rasûlullâh ﷺ that he said, "If there was one day remaining for the existence of this world - *Zâ'ida* (the narrator says) – then Allâh would lengthen that day until he

³⁹ Al Kaukab Ad Durri vol.2 p.57

⁴⁰ Summarized from *Fatâwâ Mahmûdiyya* vol.13 p.403

sends a person from me (or he said, from my family) such that his name will be like mine, and his father's name will be the same as my father's name. The narration of *Fitr* adds, "He will fill the earth with justice and equity just as it was filled with oppression and tyranny."⁴¹

Another narration is as follows,

عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه قال : لو لم يبق من الدنيا إلا يوما لطول الله ذلك
اليوم حتى يلي . هذا حديث حسن صحيح . ترمذى ٢/٤٧

It is narrated from Hadrat Abû Hurayrah ﷺ that he said, "If there was only a single day left of the existence of the world, then Allâh would have lengthened that day until a person is made the ruler."⁴²

Another narration states,

عن عبد الله بن مسعود رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم
: "لا تذهب الدنيا حتى يملك العرب رجل من أهل بيتي يواطئ اسمه
اسمي ". هذا حديث حسن صحيح . ترمذى ٢/٤٧

Hadrat Abdullâh bin Mas'ûd ﷺ narrates that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "The world will not come to an end until a person from my family is not made the ruler over Arabia. His name will be the same as mine's."⁴³

'Ruler over Arabia' is mentioned in the above narration. This means that because Arabia is the centre and capital of Islâm, therefore rule over it implies rule over the entire earth. In addition, the Arabs are the most honourable nation. Hence, being a leader of the Arabs implies being the ruler over everyone.

⁴¹ Sunan Abû Dâwûd vol.2 p.588

⁴² Jâmi' at Tirmidhi vol.2 p.47

⁴³ Ibid

Maulânâ Manzûr Ahmad Nu'mânî رحمۃ اللہ علیہ writes, 'It could also be said that initially, rule will be established in Arabia, then in the entire world, or, the capital will be Arabian.'⁴⁴

The above-mentioned point is explained elsewhere thus, لا تذهب الايام والليلي حتى يملك رجل من أهل بيتي ، يواطئ اسمه اسمي واسم أبيه اسم أبي ، فيما الأرض قسطا وعدلأ كم ملئت ظلما وجورا" .

مستدرک للحاکم . رقم الحدیث ٨٧١٣

'Day and night will not cease to exist until a person from my family is made ruler, whose name corresponds with mine's, and his father's name corresponds with my father's name. He will fill the earth with justice and equity just as it was filled with oppression and tyranny.'⁴⁵

"لا تقوم الساعة حتى تملأ الأرض ظلما وجورا وعدوانا ثم يخرج من أهل بيتي من يملأها قسطا وعدلأ كم ملئت ظلما وعدوانا" . مستدرک . رقم

الحدیث ٨٦٩

'Qiyâmah will not happen until the earth is not filled with oppression, tyranny and enmity. A person from my family will then emerge who will fill the earth with justice and equity just as it was filled with oppression and tyranny.'⁴⁶

It is inferred from these two narrations that night and day will not cease to exist, or, Qiyâmah will not come until Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ does not emerge.

⁴⁴ Ma'ârif ul Hadith vol.8 p.170

⁴⁵ Mustadrak Hâkim, Hadith 8713

⁴⁶ Ibid, Hadith 8669

The summary of these narrations is that the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ is a certainty and a source of mercy such that it is *wâjib*⁴⁷ to believe in the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ as will be explained later.

EMPHASIS UPON TAKING THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AT THE HANDS OF HADRAT MAHDI ﷺ

It is necessary for man to aid every venture of goodness and piety to the best of his ability. In accordance to the teachings of the pure *sharî'ah*, it is a demand of faith and character to help, remove obstacles, and not to hinder the path of a reformer, *mujaddid* or a person who stands up to proclaim the truth. However, great emphasis is found in the *Ahâdîth* to aid Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ when he emerges and to take the pledge of allegiance at his hands. Rasûlullâh ﷺ has explained with great emphasis thus, "He who finds this time (the era of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ) should come to him, even if he has to come crawling on ice."

Herewith explains a Hadith,

عن عبد الله بن مسعود رضي الله عنه قال : بينما نحن عند رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم إذ أقبل فتية من بني هاشم ، فلما رأهم النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم أغروا رب عيناه وتغير لونه . قال (عبد الله) فقلت : ما نزال نرى في وجهك شيئاً نكرهه ، فقال : "إنا أهل بيت اختار الله لنا الآخرة على الدنيا ، وإن أهل

⁴⁷ Compulsory -[T]

يَبْتَيْ سَيَلِقُونَ بَعْدِي بَلَاءً وَتَشْرِيدًا وَتَطْرِيدًا حَتَّىٰ يَأْتِي قَوْمٌ مِّنْ قَبْلِ الْمَشْرُقِ
مَعْهُمْ رَأْيَاتٌ سُودٌ، فَيُسْأَلُونَ الْخَيْرَ فَلَا يُعْطَوْهُ، فَيُقَاتَلُونَ، فَيُنَصَّرُونَ،
فَيُعْطَوْنَ مَا سُئُلُوا، فَلَا يَقْبَلُونَ حَتَّىٰ يَدْفَعُوهَا إِلَى رَجُلٍ مِّنْ أَهْلِ بَيْتِيِّ، فَيَمْلأُ
قَسْطَافَ كَمَا مَأْتَوْهَا جُورًا، فَمَنْ أَدْرَكَ ذَلِكَ مِنْهُمْ فَلِيَأْتِهِمْ وَلَوْ حَبْوَاعُ عَلَىِ الْثَّلْجِ.

ابن ماجة ٣٠٩

Hadrat 'Abdullâh bin Mas'ûd narrates, "We were once sitting with Rasûlullâh ﷺ. Suddenly, a few youngsters from Banû Hâshim came to him. When he (Rasûlullâh ﷺ) saw them, his eyes became wet with tears and the colour of his face changed. I (*Hadrat 'Abdullâh bin Mas'ûd*) said, "We see the effects of grief on your face which is a cause of uneasiness for us." Rasûlullâh ﷺ then said, "Indeed Allâh has preferred for us, the *ahl al bayt*, the hereafter over this world. The people of my household will face great difficulty, hurt and will be reviled after my demise. This will be the case until a nation that has black flags will rise from the east. They (my family) will ask good from them, but they will not be given. They will then war, and will be helped. They will be given what they ask but they will not accept, until they give to a person from my family. He will fill the earth with justice and equity just as it was filled with oppression. So, whoever finds him should go to him, even though he may have to crawl on ice."⁴⁸

We can gauge from these blessed words the emphasis that Rasûlullâh ﷺ placed upon helping *Hadrat Mahdi* ﷺ and taking the pledge of allegiance upon his hands.

⁴⁸ Sunan Ibn Mâjah p.309

Hadrat Shâh Waliullâh رحمۃ اللہ علیہ says, 'It will be *wâjib* to obey *Hadrat Mahdi* ﷺ in the affairs related to the *khilâfah* once his era dawns.'⁴⁹

AHÂDÎTH PERTAINING TO THE EMERGENCE OF HADRAT MAHDÎ ﷺ

(1) THE GREAT NUMBER OF AHÂDÎTH PERTAINING TO THE EMERGENCE OF HADRAT MAHDÎ ﷺ

Hâfiż Ibn Hajar 'Asqalâni رحمۃ اللہ علیہ says that the Ahâdîth pertaining to the emergence of *Hadrat Mahdi* ﷺ have reached the level of *tawâtur*⁵⁰. (Shaykh Barzanji رحمۃ اللہ علیہ and 'Allâmah Suyûti رحمۃ اللہ علیہ explain that *tawâtur ma 'nawi*⁵¹ is meant by this.)

Qâdi Shaukâni writes in *Al Fath Ar Rabbâni*,
وَجْمِيعُ مَا سَقَاهُ بَلَغَ حَدَّ التَّوَاتِرِ، كَمَا لَا يَخْفَى عَلَىٰ مَنْ لَهُ فَضْلٌ اطْلَاعٌ . بِحَوْالَةِ
تحفة الأحوذى ٦٤٠٢

'All the narrations that we have recorded have reached the level of *tawâtur* (see footnote 50). This is not hidden from those of knowledge.'

⁴⁹ *Izâlatul Khifâ'* vol.1 p.26

⁵⁰ *Tawâtur* refers to a narration that has been narrated by such a large number of people through every era that it is impossible to conceive that all of them have lied. [Irshâd Usûl ul Hadith p.42] - [T]

⁵¹ *Tawâtur e Ma 'nawi* refers to a number of narrations whose subject matter or meaning has reached the level of *Tawâtur*. [Irshâd Usûl ul Hadith p.44] - [T]

A similar observation has been made in *Shark Aqidah As Safarîni*,

قد كثرت الروايات بخروج المهدى ، حتى بلغت حد التواتر المعنوى . شرح عقيدة السفاريني ٢/٨٠

'The Ahâdîth pertaining to the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ are so great in number that they have reached the level of *tawâtur ma 'nawî* (see footnote 51).'

Shâh 'Abdul Haq Mu Dehlawî رحمه الله explains in *Ashi'atul Lam'ât*,

'Many narrations in this regard have reached a level very close to *tawâtur* (see footnote 50).'⁵²

(2) THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE AHÂDÎTH PERTAINING TO THE EMERGENCE OF HADRAT MAHDÎ ﷺ

The entire Muslim *ummah* has accepted the Ahâdîth that explain the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ. Allâmah Munâwî رحمه الله says in *Fayd ul Qadir*, the commentary of *Jâmi 'us Sagîr*,

أخبار المهدى كثيرة شهيرة أفردها غير واحد في التأليف الخ . فيض القدير

شرح جامع الصغير ٦٧٧٩

'The Ahâdîth concerning Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ have been narrated in great number, and they are famous as well. Scholars have compiled separate works only on this subject.'

⁵² *Ashi'atul Lam'ât* vol.4 p.338

(1) CLARIFICATION WITH REGARDS TO THE NAME OF HADRAT MAHDÎ ﷺ

Approximately more than ninety *marfû'*⁵³ Ahâdîth have been narrated, thirty of which clearly state the name of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ. Besides this, (mention of his name) is also found in the Âthâr (see footnote 2) of the sahâbah ﷺ and the sayings of the tâbi'in.

Note: The name of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ is not mentioned clearly in some Ahâdîth. However, according to the scholars of Hadîth, there is a principle that states that if there are different Ahâdîth narrated on one particular story, and some are concise or unclear, while others are detailed, then the detailed narrations will be considered to be the explanation of the concise or unclear narrations.

(4) THE NARRATORS OF THE AHÂDÎTH PERTAINING TO HADRAT MAHDÎ ﷺ

Approximately twenty five sahâbah ﷺ and tâbi'in have narrated Ahâdîth pertaining to Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ. Among them are such great personalities like, Hadrat 'Uthmân رضي الله عنه, Hadrat 'Ali رضي الله عنه, Hadrat 'Abdullâh bin Mas'ûd رضي الله عنه, Hadrat 'Abdullâh bin 'Abbâs رضي الله عنه, Hadrat 'Abdullâh bin 'Umar رضي الله عنه, Hadrat Abû Hurayrah رضي الله عنه, Hadrat Talha رضي الله عنه, Hadrat Anas رضي الله عنه, Hadrat 'Abdur Rahmân bin 'Auf رضي الله عنه and Hadrat Abû Sa'id Khudrî رضي الله عنه. The narrators from among the *Ummahât al Mu'minîn* include Hadrat Umm e Salamah رضي الله عنها and Hadrat Umm e Habibah رضي الله عنها.

⁵³ *Marfû'* is a narration whose chain of narration is linked directly to Rasûlullâh ﷺ
﴿Irshâd Usûl ul Hadîth p.53﴾ - [T]

(5) AHÂDÎTH PERTAINING TO HADRAT MAHDÎ ﷺ IN THE SIHÂH SITTAH⁵⁴

From amongst the compilers of the *sihâh sittah*, Imâm Tirmidhî رضي الله عنه, Imâm Abû Dâwûd رضي الله عنه and Imâm Ibn Mâjah رضي الله عنه have included a separate chapter dealing solely with the subject of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ.

Note: There are certain fabricated narrations in Ibn Mâjah. However, the Ahâdîth pertaining to Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ are not among them. This is explained in 'Mâ Tamassu Ilayhi al-Hâjâh li man Yuṭâli u Ibn Mâjah' of 'Allâmah 'Abdur Rashîd Nu'mâni رضي الله عنه wherein he has collected the fabricated narrations on p.38. (There are reservations with regard to the narration of Ibn Mâjah, 'There is no Mahdi except Isâ. This we have mentioned separately.)

(6) AHÂDÎTH PERTAINING TO HADRAT MAHDÎ ﷺ IN OTHER HADÎTH BOOKS

The following Hadîth scholars have made special mention of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ in their books:

1. Imâm Ahmad رضي الله عنه
2. Imâm Bazzâr رضي الله عنه
3. Ibn Abî Shaybah رضي الله عنه
4. Imâm Hâkim رضي الله عنه
5. Imâm Tabrâni رضي الله عنه
6. Imâm Abû Ya'lâ Mûsili رضي الله عنه
7. Imâm 'Abdur Razzâq bin Humâm رضي الله عنه

⁵⁴ The six most authentic compilations of Ahâdîth according to the Hadîth scholars, namely, *Sahîh al Bukhârî*, *Sahîh Muslim*, *Jâmi'* at Tirmidhî, *Sunan Abû Dâwûd*, *Sunan Nasâ'i*, *Sunan Ibn Mâjah*. – [T]

8. Imâm Nu'aym bin Hammâd – the Shaykh of Imâm Bukhârî رضي الله عنه

9. Hâfiż Nûr ud Dîn 'Alî bin Abî Bakr Al Haythamî رضي الله عنه

10. 'Allâmah 'Alâ' ud Dîn 'Alî al Muttaqî رضي الله عنه in *Kanz ul Ummâl*

Note: Hâfiż Ibn Taymiyyah رضي الله عنه in *Minhâj us Sunnah* and Hâfiż Dhahabî رضي الله عنه in *Mukhtasar Minhâj us Sunnah* have explained, فنقول : الأحاديث التي تتحجّج بها على خروج المهدى صحيحة ، رواها أئمّة وأبو داؤد والترمذى . ترجمان السنة ص ٣٧٨

The Ahâdîth from which the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ have been inferred are authentic. Imâm Ahmad رضي الله عنه, Imâm Abû Dâwûd رضي الله عنه and Imâm Tirmidhî رضي الله عنه have recorded them.⁵⁵

(7). THE APPEARANCE OF MAHDÎ ﷺ IN THE SÂHIHAYN⁵⁶

Explanation concerning Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ is found in the *sâhihayn* with clear indication.

Hadith One:

عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم "كيف أنت إذا نزل ابن مريم فيكم وإمامكم منكم" . تابعه عقيل والأوزاعي

صحيح البخاري ١٤٩٠

⁵⁵ Tarjumân us Sunnah p.378

⁵⁶ *Sahîh al Bukhârî* and *Sahîh Muslim*

Hadrat Abū Hurayrah ﷺ narrates that Rasūlullāh ﷺ said, "What will be your condition when Isā bin Maryam will descend among you while your leader will be from among you, (i.e. Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ)."

a) Allāmah Ibn Hajar 'Asqalānī رحمه الله writes in the commentary of 'while your leader will be from among you',

وقال أبو الحسن الخسبي الأبدي في مناقب الشافعي: تواترت الأخبار بأن المهدى من هذه الأمة وأن عيسى يصلى خلفه، ذكر ذلك ردا للحديث الذى أخرجه ابن ماجة عن أنس رضى الله عنه، وفيه "ولا مهدى إلا عيسى". فتح الباري ٧٦١١

Abū al-Hasan al-Khasa'i al-Abidī says in *Manāqib ash-Shāfi'i*, 'The Ahādīth explaining that Mahdī (ﷺ) is from this *ummah* and that Isā (ﷺ) will perform *salāh* behind him have reached the level of *tawātur* (see footnote 50). This explanation has been given in refutation of the Hadīth transmitted by *Ibn Mājah*, reported by Hadrat Anas ﷺ, "There is no Mahdī except Isā."⁵⁷

b) This explanation has also been given by 'Allāmah Badr ud Dīn 'Aynī رحمه الله in *Umdatul Qāri*, commentary of *Sahīh al-Bukhārī* vol.16 p.40.

c) There is a *mutābi*⁵⁸ narration of Hadrat Jābir bin 'Abdullāh ﷺ in *Sahīh Muslim*. The wording is, 'Their leader will say, "Come, lead us in *salāh*..."'

⁵⁷ *Fath al-Bārī* vol.6 p.611

⁵⁸ If it is understood that a particular narration is the only one regarding a specific subject, but another narrator supports it (in another narration) on condition that

Allāmah Shabbir Ahmad 'Uthmānī رحمه الله, commentator of *Sahīh Muslim* says,

أميرهم هو امام المسلمين المهدى الموعود المسعود . فتح المهم ١٣٠٣

'Their leader' only refers to the honourable promised leader of the believers, (Hadrat) Mahdī ﷺ.⁵⁹

i) The above interpretation has been verified by Abū 'Abdullāh Muhammad bin Khalfah Al Washtātī Al Mālikī رحمه الله in *Ikmāl u lkmāl Al Mu'lim*, and by Abū 'Abdullāh Muhammad bin Muhammad bin Yūsuf As Sanūsī Al Hasanī رحمه الله in *Mukammal Ikmāl il Ikmāl*.⁶⁰

e) The following *maqtū'*⁶¹ narration of *Musannaf 'Abdur Razzāq* also corroborates the interpretation of 'Your leader from among you' to be Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ,

أخبرنا عبد الرزاق ، عن معمر قال : كان ابن سيرين يرى أنه المهدى الذي

يصلى وراء عيسى . مصنف عبد الرزاق ١١٣٩٩

'Abdur Razzāq has informed us from Ma'mar that he said, "Ibn Sirin was of the view that it is Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ who will perform *alāh* behind Hadrat Isā ﷺ."⁶²

the *sahābī* in both narrations are the same. The second supporting narration is called *Mutābi* . [Irshād Usūl ul Hadīth p.76] – [T]

⁵⁹ *Fath al-Mulhim* vol.1 p.303

⁶⁰ vol.1 p.268

⁶¹ A narration whose chain ends at a *tābi'i* or *tab' ut tābi'i* or a narration that details the statements and actions of the *tābi'in* is called *Maqtū'* . [Irshād Usūl ul Hadīth p.56] – [T]

f) Mullâ 'Ali al Qârî رحمه الله says,

وإمامكم منكم أى من أهل دينكم ، وقيل من قريش وهو المهدي . مرقة

المفاتيح ١٠٢٣٢

'From among you' means a common religion, or it is said to mean from the Quraysh and this implies that it is Hadrat Mahdi.⁶³

g) 'Allâmah Anwar Shâh Kashmîrî رحمه الله writes in the commentary of this Hadith,

والمبادر منه (من لفظ وإمامكم) الإمام المهدي . فيض الباري ٤/٤٥

The apparent comprehended meaning of the words 'Your leader' is Hadrat Mahdi.⁶⁴

He further writes,

وقد اختلفت فيه بعض الرواية عند مسلم ، فأطلقه على عيسى عليه الصلوة

والسلام فجعل اللفظ "وأمامكم منكم" يعني أنه وإن كان من بني إسرائيل لكنه يكون تابعاً لشرعكم - والراجح عندي لفظ البخاري أى "وأمامكم منكم" بالجملة الأسمية ، المراد منه الإمام المهدي لما عند ابن ماجة . أيضاً ٤/٤٥

Some narrators of Muslim have overlooked certain aspects in this narration. They have taken Hadrat 'Isâ صلوات الله عليه to be implied at this juncture. They have narrated the words 'and your leader from among you', i.e. even though he is of the *Bani Isrâ'il*, he will be a

⁶² *Muṣannaf 'Abdur Razzâq* vol.11 p.399

⁶³ *Mirqât ul Mafâtiḥ* vol.10 p.232

⁶⁴ *Fayd al Bâri* vol.4 p.45

follower of your *shari'ah*. According to my understanding, the wording of *Sahîh al-Bukhârî* is preferred, i.e. 'and your leader from among you' – as a *jumlah ismiyyah*⁶⁵. The implication in this case will be Hadrat Mahdi.⁶⁶ This implication is corroborated by the narration of *Ibn Mâjah*.⁶⁷

Hadith Two:

عن أبي سعيد رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : "من خلفائكم خليفة يخشو المال حثيا ولا يعد عددا" . صحيح مسلم ٢٣٩٥

Hadrat Abû Sa'îd رض narrates that *Rasûlullâh* صلوات الله عليه said, "There will be a khalifah from among your khulafâ' who will distribute wealth unstintingly."⁶⁷

Hadith Three:

عن أبي سعيد وجابر رضي الله عنهما قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم "يكون في آخر الزمان خليفة يقسم المال ولا يعده" . أيضاً

Hadrat Abû Sa'îd رض and *Hadrat Jâbir* رض narrate that *Rasûlullâh* صلوات الله عليه said, "There will be a khalifah during the final era who will distribute wealth unstintingly."⁶⁸

⁶⁵ A sentence beginning with a noun - [T]

⁶⁶ Ibid

⁶⁷ *Sahîh Muslim* vol.2 p.395

⁶⁸ Ibid

Maulânâ Badr e 'Âlam Mîrthî ﷺ writes, It should remain clear that it is proven from the Ahâdîth of Sahîh Muslim that there will be a *khalîfah* of the Muslims in the final era. In his time, great blessings will descend. He will be born before Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ. Dajjâl will emerge in his time and he (Dajjâl) will be killed at the hands of Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ. This *khalîfah* would have taken the place as the *imâm* of *salâh* when Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ will descend from the skies. He will step back upon seeing Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ. Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ will say to him, "You have the right of leading the *salâh* (*imâmah*) because you have already taken the place as *imâm*. This is a honour for this *ummah*." Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ will perform this *salâh* following Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ.

All these qualities are proven in authentic Ahâdîth that the scholars of Hadîth have not criticized. The only thing that remains to be discussed is whether this *khalîfah* is Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ or another *khalîfah*. Other Ahâdîth clearly state that this *khalîfah* is Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ.

According to us, once this *khalifah* has been mentioned in *Sahih Muslim*, and the other *Hadith* books clearly state this *khalifah*'s name with the same details as in *Sahih Muslim*, then, these other *Ahâdîth* should be understood to be in the same category as those of *Sahih Muslim*. Therefore, there is scope to state that the emergence of *Hadrat Mahdi* ﷺ is proven from *Sahih Muslim* directly.

An example of this is that when a Hadith of Sahîh Muslim states that when Hadîth 'Isâ ﷺ will descend, then one leader of the Muslims would have taken the place in front to lead the salâh. There are other Ahâdîth that explain the name of this leader as Hadîth Mahdi ﷺ. Certainly, these Ahâdîth will stand as the explanation of the unclear Hadith. Another example; a Hadith of

Sahih Muslim states that there will be a *khalifah* towards the end of time who will distribute wealth generously. It is proven from other *Ahâdîth* that generosity of this nature will be found in the era of *Hadrat Mahdi* $\ddot{\text{a}}$. Therefore, it is correct to state that the *Ahâdîth* of *Sahîh Muslim* refer to *Hadrat Mahdi* $\ddot{\text{a}}$.

Similarly, with regards to the Ahâdîth about wars that are narrated in *Sahîh Muslim*, if it is explained in other Ahâdîth that these same incidents are to happen in the era of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ, then it stands to reason that the narrations of *Sahîh Muslim* refer to the incidents of the era of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ. In all probability, the scholars of Hadîth have understood some unclear Ahâdîth to refer to Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ upon this basis, and have recorded them in the chapters pertaining to Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ. Like Imâm Abû Dawûd رض indicates towards the twelfth Imâm to be Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ by recording the Hadîth of the twelve Imâms in the chapter of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ.⁶⁹

Hadith Four:

عن جابر بن عبد الله رضي الله عنه ، سمعت النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم يقول
"لا تزال طائفة من أمتي يقاتلون على الحق ظاهرين إلى يوم القيمة ، قال
فينزل عيسى بن مريم صلى الله عليه وسلم فيقول أميرهم : تعال صل لنا ،
فيقول : لا ، إن بعضكم على بعض أمراء ، تكرمة الله هذه الأمة . صحيح
مسلم ١/٨٧

Hadrat Jâbir bin 'Abdullâh ﷺ narrates that he heard Rasûlullâh ﷺ saying, "There will be a group in my ummah that will remain firm upon the truth until Qiyâmah. Then when Isâ bin Maryam will descend, their leader will say, "Come, lead us in salâh." He will reply, "No. Some of you are leaders over others. This is a bounty of Allâh upon this ummah."

The leader of the Muslims in the above Hadîth refers to Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ. 'Allâmah Shabbîr Ahmad 'Uthmâni رحمه اللہ عنہ explains this in *Fath al Mulhim*,

قوله "فيقول اميرهم الخ" هو امام المسلمين المهدى الموعود المسعود . فتح المليم ١/٣٠٣

The Imâm of the Muslims, the promised, fortunate *Mahdî* is meant by 'Their leader will say'.⁷⁰

We come to know from this text of 'Allâmah Shabbîr Ahmad 'Uthmâni رحمه اللہ عنہ that all the Ahâdîth on this subject that vaguely state the word 'leader' or 'khalifah' refer to Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ.⁷¹ We will also mention a narration of *Sahîh Muslim*⁷² about the *Mahdî* in the forthcoming pages.

Note: A number of authors in the past, as well as a few today reject the belief of the emergence of *Mahdî* simply upon the basis that Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ is not mentioned in the *sahîhayn*. We hope that this explanation removes any misgivings in this regard. Allâh ﷺ states,

⁷⁰ *Fath al Mulhim* vol.1 p.303

⁷¹ 'Aqîdah Zuhûr e Mahdî p.62

⁷² vol.2 p.388, Hadîth 2884

فَمَنْ جَاءَهُ مَوْعِظَةٌ مِّنْ رَّبِّهِ فَأَنْهَى فَلَهُ مَا سَلَفَ

The one to whom the advice from his Rabb had come and he restrained, then for him is that which has passed. [Sûrah al Baqarah (the Bull) 2:275]

HADRAT 'ISÂ ﷺ AND HADRAT MAHDÎ ﷺ ARE TWO DIFFERENT PEOPLE

حدثنا يونس بن عبد الأعلى ، حدثنا محمد بن ادريس الشافعي ، حدثني محمد بن خالد الجندي ، عن أبيان بن صالح ، عن الحسن ، عن أنس بن مالك أن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم قال : "لا يزداد الأمر الا شدة ، ولا الدنيا إلا ادباما ، ولا الناس إلا شحاما ، ولا تقوم الساعة إلا على شرار الناس ، ولا المهدى إلا عيسى بن مريم " . ابن ماجة ٣٠٢ والمسند الجامع رقم ١٦٠٠

Hadrat Anas bin Mâlik ﷺ narrates that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "The matter will increase in severity, the world will retrogress, people will become stingy, Qiyâmah will not happen except upon the worst of people and there is no *Mahdî* except Isâ."⁷³

It is apparently proven from this Hadîth that the promised *Mahdî* is none other than Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ. There is none else to emerge as the *Mahdî*. Two answers to this are provided here.

1. The grading of this Hadîth is debated. (*mutakallam fih*)
2. The interpretation of this Hadîth is demanded rather than the apparent wording.

⁷³ Sunan Ibn Mâjah p.302, Al Musnad Al Jâmi' Hadîth 1600

1. The grading of this Hadith is debated. (*mutakallam fih*)

Hâfiż Dhahabî in *Mizân al I'tidâl* states the following under the biography of Muhammad bin Khâlid al Janadî,

قلت : حديثه لا مهدي إلا عيسى بن مريم ، وهو خبر منكر . ٣٥٢

The Hadith 'There is no *Mahdi* except *Isâ'* narrated by him is *munkar*.⁷⁴

One of the reasons why this narration is *munkar*⁷⁵ is that it is based on the narrator, Muhammad bin Khâlid al Janadî who is alone in narrating this, and he is highly debated about (*mutakallam fih*). Hâfiż Dhahabî writes about him,

قال الأزدي : منكر الحديث ، وقال عبد الله الحاكم : مجهول . أيضا

Azdi says, 'he is *munkar al hadith*'⁷⁶, and 'Abdullâh al Hâkim says, 'he is *majhûl*'.⁷⁷ Hâfiż Ibn Hajar 'Asqalâni writes concerning Muhammad bin Khalid al Janadî,

"قال الأبري : محمد بن خالد غير معروف عند أهل الصناعة من أهل النقل "

Al Âbirî said, "Muhammad bin Khalid is *ghayr ma rûf*"⁷⁸ according to the scholars of narration."

⁷⁴ *Mizân al I'tidâl* vol.3 p.52

⁷⁵ *Munkar* is a narration whose narrator makes a lot of mistakes or is very negligent and forgetful or he is responsible for any other open sin besides lying and innovation. [Irshâd Uşûl ul Hadith p.116] – [T]

⁷⁶ *Munkar al Hadith* refers to a narrator that has narrated many *Munkar* narrations. He deserves to be left aside. [Irshâd Uşûl ul Hadith p.117] – [T]

⁷⁷ *Majhûl* refers to something that is unknown. It refers to a narration whose narrator is not known because his name was not mentioned in the chain. [Irshâd Uşûl ul Hadith pp.101-102] – [T]

⁷⁸ Unknown – [T]

He further explains,

"وقال البيهقي : قال أبو عبد الله الحافظ : محمد بن خالد مجهول " . تهذيب التهذيب ٩/٤٤

Bayhaqî said, Hâfiż Abû 'Abdullâh said, "Muhammad bin Khalid is *majhûl*".⁷⁹

Hâfiż Jalâl ud Dîn Suyûti has written at length on this Hadith in his *Misbâh az Zujâjah*, marginal notes of *Sunan Ibn Mâjah*. We feel it appropriate to present a summary of it here, 'Allâmah' has scrutinized the rejection and acceptance of this narration by the scholars as well as the criticism of the debated narrators⁸⁰ with his special sight into research and his in depth study. Abul Hasan 'Alî bin Muhammâd bin 'Abdullâh al Wâsîti has mentioned a dream in this regard, in which he saw Imâm Shâfi'i, Imâm Shâfi'i said to him that Yûnus bin 'Abdul A'lâ has wrongly attributed this narration to me. He has also mentioned the answer that Ibn Kathîr has explained.⁸¹

The author of Nibrâs says,

لأن الحديث لا يصح . نبراس ٣١٥

This hadith is not authentic.⁸²

⁷⁹ *Tahdhîb ut Tahdhîb* vol.9 p.144

⁸⁰ Yûnus bin 'Abdul A'lâ and Muhammad bin Khalid al Janadî

⁸¹ *Misbâh az Zujâjah*, marginal notes of *Sunan Ibn Mâjah* p.300

⁸² Nibrâs p.315

A text of *Minhâj us Sunnah* states,

فَمَا حَدِيثٌ لَا مَهْدِيٌ إِلَّا عِيسَى بْنُ مَرِيمٍ فَضْعِيفٌ، فَلَا يُعَارِضُ هَذِهِ
الْأَحَادِيثُ . مِنْهَاجُ السَّنَةِ ٥٦٢

The Hadîth 'There is no *Mahdî* except 'Isâ' is *da if*.⁸³ For this reason, it cannot be contrasted with this one.⁸⁴

'Allâmah Saghâni رحمه الله has classified this narration to be *maudû*'.⁸⁵

2. The interpretation of this Hadîth is demanded rather than the apparent wording.

The author of *Misbâh az Zujâjâh* has written in the marginal notes of this Hadîth,

وهذا الحديث فيها يظهر ببادي الرأي مخالف للأحاديث الواردة في إثبات
مهدي غير عيسى بن مريم ، وعند التأمل لا ينافيها ، بل يكون المراد من ذلك
أن المهدى حق المهدى هو عيسى بن مريم عليه السلام ، ولا ينافي ذلك أن
يكون غيره مهديا أيضا . مصباح الرجاجة ٣٠

⁸³ *Da if* is translated as weak. It refers to such a Hadîth in which the conditions of *Sahîh* and *Hasan* are not found. [Irshâd Usûl ul Hadîth p.121] – [T]

⁸⁴ *Minhâj us Sunnah* p.562

⁸⁵ Al Fawâid Al Majmû'a bi al Ahâdîth ad Da'ifah p.195 (Chapter of Miscellaneous narrations, Hadîth 127, Tadhkiratul Maudû'ât p.223 (Chapter on the Final Age and its trials) A *Maudû'* narration is one from whose narrator lies have been proven, even if one lie was spoken by him, all his narrations will not be accepted. The narrations of such a narrator are not accepted according to the Hadîth scholars. [Irshâd Usûl ul Hadîth p.99] – [T]

Outwardly, it seems that this Hadîth contradicts those that explain of a *Mahdî* besides 'Isâ صلوات الله عليه وآله وسلام. However, upon careful scrutiny and thought, we understand that there is no contradiction between the two, considering the purport of the two. The meaning of the above narration is that the title '*Mahdî*' refers to Hadîth 'Isâ صلوات الله عليه وآله وسلام to a complete degree. And Hadîth 'Isâ صلوات الله عليه وآله وسلام being a *Mahdî* does not negate another person being a *Mahdî*.⁸⁶

We learn that this narration cannot be used as proof. The subject matter of this narration also deserves scrutiny in the light of a comprehensive study of the subject. The reason for this is that there are a number of Ahâdîth before us that clearly state that Hadîth 'Isâ صلوات الله عليه وآله وسلام and Hadîth *Mahdî* صلوات الله عليه وآله وسلام are two different people. These narrations are presented below,

لَنْ تَهْلِكْ أَمَّةٌ إِنْ فِي أُولَئِنَّا وَعِيسَى بْنُ مَرِيمٍ فِي آخِرِهَا وَالْمَهْدِيُّ فِي أُوْسَطِهَا . أَبُو
نَعِيمُ فِي أَخْبَارِ الْمَهْدِيِّ عَنْ أَبْنَى عَبَّاسٍ . كِتَابُ الْعَمَالِ ١٤/٢٦٦ رَقْمُ ٣٨٦٧١

*That ummah will never be destroyed, at whose beginning I am, at whose ending will be Isâ bin Maryam and whose middle period will have Mahdî among them.*⁸⁷

مَنْ الَّذِي يَصْلِي عِيسَى بْنَ مَرِيمٍ خَلْفَهُ . أَبُو نَعِيمُ فِي أَخْبَارِ الْمَهْدِيِّ عَنْ أَبِي سَعْدٍ .
كِتَابُ الْعَمَالِ ١٤/٢٦٦ رَقْمُ ٣٨٦٧٣

*The person behind whom Isâ bin Maryam will perform salâh is from among us.*⁸⁸

⁸⁶ See *Misbâh az Zujâjâh* for a detailed commentary

⁸⁷ Kanz ul 'Ummâl vol.14 p.266, Hadîth 38671

⁸⁸ Kanz ul 'Ummâl vol.14 p.266, Hadîth 38673

عن عبد الله بن عمر رضي الله عنه قال : "المهدي الذي ينزل عليه عيسى بن مريم ويصلّي خلفه عيسى" . أخرجه نعيم بن حماد ٢٦٤ رقم ١٠٤٢ كذا في الحاوي ٢٧٨

It is narrated from Hadrat 'Abdullah bin 'Umar ﷺ that he said, "Mahdi will emerge after 'Isâ and 'Isâ will perform (one) salâh behind him."

"لا تزال طائفة من امتی تقاتل عن الحق حتى ينزل عيسى بن مريم عند طلوع الفجر بيت المقدس ، ينزل على المهدي فيقال له تقدم يا نبی الله فصل لنا ، فيقول : ان هذه الامة امين بعضهم على بعض لكرامتهم على الله عز وجل " . أخرجه أبو عمرو الداني في سنته عن جابر بن عبد الله رضي الله عنه ٢٤٠ رقم ٦٨٦ والحاوي ٢٨٣

There will always be a group among my ummah who will fight in defence of the truth until 'Isâ bin Maryam descends upon Bayt al Muqaddas⁸⁹ at the time of Fajr. It will be requested of him, "O messenger of Allâh, lead us in salâh." He will say, "In this ummah, some lead others." [Similar wording is found in Sahîh Muslim]

"يلتفت المهدي وقد نزل عيسى بن مريم كأنها يقطر من شعره الماء ، فيقول المهدي : تقدم صل بالناس ، فيقول عيسى : إنها أقيمت الصلوة لك ، فيصلّي

⁸⁹ In Jerusalem

خلف رجل من ولدي" . أخرجه أبو عمرو الداني في سنته عن حذيفة رضي الله عنه في سياق حديث طويل في باب ماروي في الواقعة اللتي تكون بالزوراء الخ ص ٢٠٢ إلى ٢٠٩ رقم ٥٩٦

Mahdi would turn to 'Isâ bin Maryam when the latter would have descended (from the sky). (His hair will be in such a condition) that it would be as if water is dripping from it. Mahdi will say, "Come forward, lead us in salâh." 'Isâ will reply, "The iqâmah has been called out for you." He ('Isâ) will perform salâh led by a person from my progeny.⁹⁰

عن جابر رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : ينزل عيسى بن مريم فيقول أميرهم المهدي : تعال صل بنا ، فيقول : وان بعضكم على بعض امراء ، تكرمة الله لهذه الأمة . أخرجه السيوطي في الحاوي ٢٦٤ عن أبي نعيم

It is narrated from Hadrat Jâbir ﷺ that he said, "Rasulullâh ﷺ said, "'Isâ bin Maryam will descend, then their leader Mahdi will say to him, 'Come, lead us in salâh.' He will reply, 'Some of you are leaders over the others. This is the honour of Allâh upon this ummah.'"⁹¹

⁹⁰ Sunan of Abû 'Amr.Dâni pp.202-209, Hadith 596

⁹¹ Al Hâwi vol.2 p.64 from Abû Nu'aym

عن ابن سيرين رحمه الله قال : المهدى من هذه الأمة ، وهو الذي يوم عيسى بن مريم عليهما السلام . أخرجه ابن أبي شيبة ١٥١٩٨ رقم ١٩٤٩٥ كذا في الحاوي ٢٨٥

It is narrated from Ibn Sirin رضي الله عنه that he said, "The Mahdî is an individual of this ummah. It is he who will lead Isâ bin Maryam ﷺ in salah."⁹²

عن أبي أمامة رضي الله عنه قال : خطبنا رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم وذكر الدجال ، وقال : "فتني المدينة الخبث منها كما ينفي الكير خبث الحديد ، ويدعى ذلك اليوم يوم الخلاص ، فقالت أم شريك : فأين العرب يا رسول الله يومئذ ؟ قال : هم يومئذ قليل ، وجلهم بيت المقدس ، وأمامهم المهدى رجل صالح ، فيبينما أمامهم قد تقدم يصلى بهم الصبح اذ نزل عليهم عيسى بن مريم الصبح ، فرجع ذلك الامام ينكص يمشي القهقرى ليتقدم عيسى ، فيوضع عيسى يده بين كتفيه ، ثم يقول له تقدم : فانها لك اقيمت ، فيصلى بهم أمامهم " . أخرجه ابن ماجة رقم ٤٠٧٧ والروياني وابن خريمة وأبو عوانة والحاكم وأبو نعيم – واللفظ له – كذا في الحاوي ٢٨٥

It is narrated from Hadrat Abû Umâmah ﷺ that he said, "Rasûlullâh ﷺ delivered a sermon in which he discussed Dajjâl. He said, "Madinah will remove its dirt just as a furnace removes dirt from steel. That day will be called 'The Day of Release'. Umm e Sharîk

⁹² Musannaf Ibn Abî Shaybah vol.15 p.198, Narration 19495, Al Hâwi vol.2 p.65

enquired, "O Messenger of Allâh, where will the Arabs be on that day?" Rasûlullâh ﷺ replied, "They will be very few and will be located in Bayt al Muqaddas. Their leader 'Mahdî' will be a pious person. Their Imâm would have come forward to lead them in Fajr salâh when Isâ bin Maryam will descend among them. This Imâm will walk back on his heels in acceptance so that Isâ may come forward. Isâ will place his hands between his (Mahdî's) shoulders and say to him, "Go forward, because the iqâmah was called out for you." Then their leader (Mahdî ﷺ) will lead them in salâh."⁹³

Summary:

In the light of all these narrations it is known with definite certainty that Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ and Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ are two different people. Also, in various places in the Sahîhayn it is explained that the descent of Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ will take place at such a time when the Muslims will have a leader amongst them. There is not a single *da if* (see footnote 83) narration that states that Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ is not meant by the narrations that clearly state his name. Consequently, it has become clear that Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ and Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ are two different people, and not one person with two names.

Despite this, if the narration of *Sunan Ibn Mâjah* 'There is no Mahdî except 'Isâ' is accepted to a certain degree, then its explanation is as stated below:

1. The meaning of referring to Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ as Mahdî is 'âlham al Mahdî' (the Greatest Mahdî). This is because every guided person and every person who guides others can be called 'Mahdî' in the light of its lexical implication. Imâm Suyûti رحمه الله has

⁹³ Al Hâwi vol.2 p.65

recorded the following statement of Hadrat 'Abdullâh bin 'Umar رضي الله عنه

عن ابن عمر رضي الله عنه قال لابن الحنفية : المهدى الذى يقولون كما يقول :
الرجل الصالح ، اذا كان الرجل صالح قبل له المهدى . الحاوي لفتاوى

٢٧٨ وكذا معناه في الفتن لنعيم بن حماد ٢٦٣ رقم ١٠٣٧

The *Mahdî*, as is commonly used, is like a person saying, 'A pious person. This is because if a person is pious, he is called *Mahdî*'. (In the light of this, '*Mahdî*' can refer to a number of people in its general implication).⁹⁴

It is quite apparent that in consideration of this lexical meaning, there will be many individuals found from after Rasûlullâh صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم until today that could be called '*Mahdî*'. Rasûlullâh صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم himself used the word '*Mahdîyyîn*' for the *khulâfâ' e râshidîn*. Hadrat 'Isâ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم is referred to as the highest ranking rightful *Mahdî*. Ibn al Qayyim رحمۃ اللہ علیہ points to this in the following words, "لأن عيسى أعظم مهدي بين يدي رسول الله صلی الله علیہ وسلم وبين الساعة... إلى أن قال : فيصح أن يقال : لا مهدي في الحقيقة سواه ، وإن كان غيره مهديا". المنار المنيف ١٤٨

'Isâ is the greatest *Mahdî* after the era of Rasûlullâh صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم until *Qiyâmah*... it is correct to state, 'There is no genuine *Mahdî* except him even though others can be (called) *Mahdî*'.

Similarly, it is said, '*Hajj* is '*Arafah*'. The meaning of this is not that only *wuqûf* in '*arafah' constitutes *Hajj*. However, it means that it is an important link in the chain of *Hajj*. In the same way,*

⁹⁴ Al Hâwi vol.2 p.78

the word '*Dajjâl*' can refer to many people who possess the qualities of *Dajjâl* when considering the lexical meaning of the word '*Dajjâl*'. The real and complete reference of the word, however, is to the great liar, *Dajjâl*, who will emerge in the time of Hadrat Mahdî صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم and Hadrat 'Isâ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم.

Another interpretation could be that a *Mahdî* who is complete and sinless is Hadrat 'Isâ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم. Ibn al Qayyim رحمۃ اللہ علیہ writes, وكما يصح أن يقال : إنما المهدى عيسى بن مريم ، يعني المهدى الكامل المعصوم . كذا قال القرطبي في التذكرة ٧٠١ وفي الحاوي عن القرطبي

٢/٨٦

It is correct to say, 'The only *Mahdî* is 'Isâ bin Maryam, i.e. the complete and sinless *Mahdî*'.

Shaykh Barzanji رحمۃ اللہ علیہ also writes along similar lines, لا مهدي معصوما مطلقا إلا عيسى عليه السلام . الاشاعة ١٤٣

There is no sinless general *Mahdî* except 'Isâ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم.⁹⁵

The above interpretation is clarified by the following *Athar* (see footnote 2) of Walid bin Muslim رحمۃ اللہ علیہ, as recorded by 'Allâmâh Bâuyûtî رحمۃ اللہ علیہ.

عن الوليد بن مسلم رحمه الله قال : سمعت رجلا يحدث قوما ، فقال المهديون ثلاثة ، مهدي اخير عمر بن عبد العزيز رحمه الله ، ومهدي الدم وهو الذي تسكن عليه الدماء ومهدي الدين عيسى بن مريم – تسلم أمته في زمان

⁹⁵ Al Ishâ'a p.143

وأخرج أيضاً عن كعب رضي الله عنه قال: مهدي الخير (المهدي المتظر)
٣٥ محمد بن عبد الله) يخرج بعد السفياني . العرف الوردي في أخبار المهدي
الحاوي ٢٧٨ الفتن لنعميم بن حماد ٢٥٣ رقم ٩٨٨

It is narrated from Walid bin Muslim that he said, "I heard a person who was delivering a lesson of Hadith saying, 'There are three *Mahdi*'s, one is the *Mahdi* of goodness, 'Umar bin 'Abdul 'Azîz', the second is the *Mahdi* of blood, upon whose hands bloodshed will come to an end and the third is the *Mahdi* of *dîn*, 'Isâ bin Maryam, upon whom the entire *ummah* in his time will bring faith. There is another narration from Hadrat Ka'b that explains that the *Mahdi* of goodness (the awaited *Mahdi*, Muhammad bin 'Abdullah) will emerge after *Sufyânî*.⁹⁶

4. One interpretation is that there is an implicit text here. The complete text would read as follows,

لَا قُولٌ لِّلْمَهْدِيِّ إِلَّا بِمُشَوَّرِ عِيسَىٰ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ . الْأَشَاعَةُ ١٤٣

Mahdi will consult with 'Isâ in all affairs.⁹⁷

The above answers can be presented as the interpretation of all those Ahâdîth whose subject matter could cause one to fall into error, thinking Hadrat 'Isâ and Hadrat Mahdi to be the same person. A narration of Musnad Bazzâr, narrated by Hadrat Abû Hurayrah, shows this,

⁹⁶ Al 'Urf al Wardi fi Akhbâr al Mahdi p.35, Al Hâwi vol.2 p.78, Al Fitâ p.251, Narration 988

⁹⁷ Al Ishâ'a p.143

عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : يوشنك من عاش منكم أن يخرج المهدي عيسى بن مريم اماماً مهدياً وحكم عدلاً الع
عارضة الأحوذى ٩٧٧ .

Rasûlullâh said, "Those of you who will live will see *Mahdi*, i.e. *Isâ bin Maryam*. He will emerge as guided, an *Imâm* and a just ruler."⁹⁸

The summary of this discussion is that Hadrat 'Isâ and Hadrat Mahdi are two different people. Therefore, those who have moved away from the path of truth, believing Hadrat 'Isâ and Hadrat Mahdi to be one and the same person are in reality denying Hadrat Mahdi. Such a person is astray. This is especially true with regards to the *Qâdiyâni* sect who first believed Hadrat 'Isâ and Hadrat Mahdi to be one and the same person. Thereafter they said that this person is *Mirzâ Ghulâm Ahmad Qâdiyâni* (upon him be what he deserves). They are certainly very far from the path of truth and are wandering in the valley of deviation. In fact, the following verse illustrates their reality,

ظُلُمَاتٌ بَعْضُهَا فَوْقَ بَعْضٍ إِذَا أَخْرَجَ يَدَهُ لَمْ يَكُنْ يَرَاهَا

Darkness upon darkness. (The darkness is so intense that) He is unable to see his own hand when he extends it before himself. [Surah an Nûr (Celestial Light) 24:40]

The truth is that none of the signs regarding the awaited *Mahdi*, Muhammad bin 'Abdullah and Hadrat 'Isâ are found in *Mirzâ Ghulâm Ahmad Qâdiyâni* to the least extent.

⁹⁸ Musnad Bazzâr vol.9 p.77

THE BELIEF OF THE EMERGENCE OF MAHDÎ

1. It is necessary and obligatory for every Muslim to believe in the emergence of *Mahdî*.

و بالجملة فالتصديق بخروجه (إى المهدى) واجب . نبراس ٣٠٥

In summary, it is obligatory to verify, i.e. believe in the emergence of *Mahdî*.⁹⁹

The following is explained in *Sharh 'Aqidah as Safârîni*,
فالإيمان بخروج المهدى واجب ، كما هو مقرر عند أهل العلم ، ومدون في
عقائد أهل السنة والجماعة . شرح عقيدة السفاريني ٢/٨٠

It is obligatory to have belief in the emergence of *Mahdî*. This is established according to the scholars and is recorded in the books of the *Ahl us Sunnah wal Jamâ'ah*.

'Allâmah Muhammâd bin Sulaymân al Halâbî ﷺ writes,
واعلم أنه يجب الإيمان بنزل عيسى عليه السلام وكذا بخروج المهدى .

نخبة الآلی لشرح بدء الأمالی ٧١

Know well that it is obligatory to believe in the descent of 'Isâ ﷺ.
Similarly, (it is obligatory to believe in the) emergence of *Mahdî*.¹⁰⁰

Hadrat Shâh Walîullâh Muhaddith Dehlawî ﷺ says,
The emergence of *Mahdî* close to *Qiyâmah* is a certainty. *Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ will be a truthful ruler in the sight of Allâh ﷺ and Rasûlullâh ﷺ. Rasûlullâh ﷺ also prophesized him to be a *khalifah*.

⁹⁹ Nibrâs p.305

¹⁰⁰ Nukhbah al La'âli p.71

He further writes,

It will be obligatory to follow *Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ in those matters that deal with the *khalifah* during his (*Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ's) *khilâfah*.¹⁰¹

1. The belief of the emergence of *Mahdî* is an accepted belief of the *Ahl us Sunnah wal Jamâ'ah*.

Maulânâ Badr e 'Âlam Mîrthî ﷺ explains in *Tarjumân us Sunnah* that the commentator of 'Aqidah As Safârîni has claimed the emergence of *Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ to have reached the level of *tawâatur* (see footnote 50). He has counted it among the beliefs of the *Ahl us Sunnah wal Jamâ'ah*. He says, 'The *Ahâdîth* concerning the emergence of *Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ are so many that they can be said to have reached the level of *tawâatur ma nawi* (see footnote 51). This aspect is so famous that among them that it is counted to be from the beliefs of the *Ahl us Sunnah*. Abû Nu'aym رض, Abû Dâwûd رض, Tirmidhî رض, Nasâ'î رض and others have recorded a number of narrations from the *mâhibah* رض and the *tâbi'in* on this subject. From these narrations, one attains definite conviction in the emergence of *Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ. Therefore, it is necessary to have conviction in the emergence of *Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ in accordance to the explanation of the *ulemâ* and the beliefs of the *Ahl us Sunnah wal Jamâ'ah*'.¹⁰²

1. One attains complete conviction in the emergence of *Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ due to the *Ahâdîth* narrated in this regard.

¹⁰¹ Izzâlatul Khifâ' vol.1 p.26

¹⁰² Tarjumân us Sunnah p.377 from Sharh 'Aqidah As Safârîni

4. Mufti Nizâm ud Dîn Shâmzî ﷺ says,
 'Those who are affiliated with the field of Hadîth are aware of the fact that the scholars of Hadîth record the chapters in their books of those things which, according to them are proven in the Ahâdîth. This is especially the case when after transmitting the Hadîth they remain silent. In accordance to this principle, it can be safely said that those scholars of Hadîth that transmitted Ahâdîth about the emergence of Mahdi¹⁰³ and recorded separate chapters for these Ahâdîth had the belief of the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ. They also had the belief that he (Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ) is one of the signs of *Qiyâmah*.¹⁰⁴

5. In every era, from the honourable era of Rasûlullâh ﷺ until today, the *mufassirîn*¹⁰⁵, *mutakallimîn*¹⁰⁶ and most of the 'ulemâ' of the *ummah* have explained the emergence of Mahdi with due importance in their books and statements. 'Abdur Rahmân Mubârakpûrî رحمۃ اللہ علیہ writes regarding this,

اعلم أن المشهور بين الكافة من أهل الإسلام على عمر الأعصار أنه لا بد في آخر الزمان من ظهور رجل من أهل البيت ... إلى أن قال : ويسمى بالمهدي . تحفة الأحوذی ١٤٠١

It should be known that it has remained famous among all the Muslims that in the final era, a person from the *ahl al bayt*¹⁰⁷ will emerge ... his name will be Mahdi.¹⁰⁸

¹⁰³ This has been explained in the chapter 'Ahâdîth pertaining to the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ'

¹⁰⁴ 'Aqidah Zuhûr e Mahdi

¹⁰⁵ Scholars of *Tafsîr* (Exegesis) - [T]

¹⁰⁶ Scholars of Belief - [T]

¹⁰⁷ The household of Rasûlullâh ﷺ - [T]

¹⁰⁸ *Tuhfa al Ahwadhi* vol.6 p.401

The conclusion reached is that the vast majority of the Muslim *ummah* believes and accepts the emergence of Mahdi with *tawâtur* (see footnote 50).

6. The 'ulemâ' of 'aqâ'id have stated the emergence of Mahdi to be the truth. Hadrat Mufti Kifâyatullâh رحمۃ اللہ علیہ says, 'Before *Qiyâmah*, the occurrence of the emergence of *Dajjâl*, the coming of Hadrat Masîh ﷺ and the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ and all those things that are proven from authentic narrations and are worthy of standing as proof are true.'¹⁰⁹

Hadrat Maulânâ Muhammad Idrîs Kândehlawî رحمۃ اللہ علیہ writes in 'Aqâ'id e Islâm,

'It is among the beliefs of the *ahl us sunnah wal jamâ'ah* that the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ in the final era is true and accurate. It is necessary to believe in it because the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ is proven from *mutawâtilir* (see footnote 50) Ahâdîth and by the consensus of the *ummah*, even though some of the details are proven from Ahâdîth classified as *khabar e wâhid*¹¹⁰. From the era of the *sahâbah* رضی اللہ عنہم and the *tâbi'în* until today, Muslims of every class, in the east and west, the 'ulemâ', pious, commoners and elite have been explaining the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ'.¹¹¹

¹⁰⁹ *Jawâhir al Îmân* p.8

¹¹⁰ *Khabar e Wâhid* is literally translated as 'that which has been narrated by a single person'. In the study of Hadîth it refers to such a narration which has not reached the level of *tawâtur*. - [T]

¹¹¹ 'Aqâ'id e Islâm vol.1 p.64

THE RULING PERTAINING TO THE PERSON WHO REJECTS THE EMERGENCE OF MAHDI

The emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ is the unanimous belief of all among the *ahl us sunnah*. Therefore, it cannot be rejected. Faqîh al Ummah Hadrat Muftî Mahmûd al Hasan Gangohî رحمۃ اللہ علیہ writes regarding the rejecter of this belief,

Question:

Is the belief of the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ among the necessary aspects of *dîn* in the light of the Qur'ân and Hadîth? What is the ruling of *shârî'ah* regarding the person who does not believe in the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ?

Answer:

All praise is due to Allâh, and may His blessings and salutations be upon Rasûlullâh ﷺ

Detail regarding the vicegerent of Allâh - the *Mahdi* - is found in *Sunan Abû Dâwûd*. Mention is made of his signs, the pledge of allegiance at his hands and his works. The person who does not accept his emergence does not accept these *Ahâdîth*. He should be reformed so that he can tread the straight path.¹¹²

Hadrat Maulânâ Abû Muhammad 'Abdul Haq Haqqânî رحمۃ اللہ علیہ writes,

'It is part of the beliefs of the *Ahl us Sunnah* that Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ will emerge in the final age wherein he will overpower the non Muslims and strengthen Islâm. The rest of the details have been proven from narrations classified as *khabar e ahâd*¹¹³. These

¹¹² *Fatâwâ Mahmûdiyya* vol.1 p.111

¹¹³ Plural of *Khabar e Wâhid* - [T]

details are also portions of various *ahâdîth* that have been strung together. If a person does not have conviction in it, he does not leave the fold of Islâm. It is a separate matter altogether if we err in understanding the narrations passed down to us in whatever way from Rasûlullâh ﷺ. However, all of them are true and will definitely happen. This should be borne in mind with the other signs of *Qiyâmah* as well.¹¹⁴

THE CONCERN OF THE SAHÂBAH ﷺ AND STRANGE GLAD-TIDINGS FROM RASÛLULLÂH ﷺ

عن أبي سعيد الخدري رضي الله عنه قال : خشينا أن يكون بعد نبينا حادث ،
فسئلنا نبينا صل الله عليه وسلم فقال : "إن في أمتي المهدى يخرج يعيش خمسا
أو سبعا أو تسعا . (زيد الشاك) قال : قلنا : وما ذاك قال : سنين ، قال فيجيء
إليه الرجل فيقول : يا مهدي أعطني أعطي قال : فيحيى له في ثوبه ما استطاع
أن يحمله " . هذا حديث صحيح . ترمذى ٢/٤٧

Hadrat Abû Sa'îd Khudrî رضي الله عنه narrates that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "We fear that events would take place after Rasûlullâh ﷺ. We asked Rasûlullâh ﷺ about this. He ﷺ said, "Mahdi will emerge in my ummah. He will live for five, or seven or nine. (Zayd - a narrator - doubted) Zayd says, 'We said, "What measurement is this of?" He ﷺ said, "Years." He ﷺ then said, "A person will come to him and say, 'O

¹¹⁴ *Aqâ'id e Islâm* p.185

Mahdî, grant me, grant me." He ﷺ said, "He will place so much (wealth) in his clothing that he will not be able to carry it."¹¹⁵

The famous *muhaddith*, Hadrat Maulânâ Rashîd Ahmad Gangohî رحمۃ اللہ علیہ said the following in the light of this Hadîth, 'Once Rasûlullâh ﷺ gave the *sahâbah* glad-tidings of the goodness of the first three eras, they understood that trials and events would occur after that (the first three eras). There will be such a time after the best eras that every day will prove to be worse than the previous one.'

The *sahâbah* رضي الله عنه became worried about the future of the beloved *ummah* of Rasûlullâh ﷺ upon hearing this, that, what will be the condition of the *ummah* when they will be involved in religious works and death will come upon them suddenly? Also, who will awaken the *ummah* from the sleep of negligence in this time of evil, trials and deviation? Rasûlullâh ﷺ gave these glad-tidings in order to remove the worry of the *sahâbah* رضي الله عنه so that they would be contented that even during this critical time, there will be emergence of guides. The emergence of guides is a clear proof that even in this era full of trials, the essence of goodness will be present and the teaching of *dîn* and the spread of the *Sunnah* will continue.¹¹⁶

He further explains the reconciliation between the three figures narrated in this Hadîth, i.e. five, seven and nine,

فيعيش خمساً أو سبعاً الخ ، والتوفيق بين هذه الروايات أن تجهيزه الجيش في

خمس سنين ، ثم محاربته مع الكفار ستان ، ثم يعيش بعد ذلك ستين ، فتلك

تسعة بأسرها ، وعلى هذا فالتردّي في هذه الروايات ليس بشك من الرواوى ، بل هو تنويع في الرواية".

"The reconciliation between these narrations is that preparation of his army will take place in five years, then war will be waged with the non Muslims for two years, he will then rule for two years. In this way, there remains no contradiction between the words of the Hadîth.'

THE STATUS OF MAHDÎ IN RELIGION, THIS WORLD, AND THE HEREAFTER

1. The following is explained in a Hadîth,
لَنْ تَهْلِكْ أَمَّةٌ فِي أَوْلَاهَا ، وَعِيسَى بْنُ مَرِيمٍ فِي آخِرِهَا ، وَالْمَهْدِيُّ فِي أَوْسِطِهَا
كنز العمال ١٤/٢٦٦ رقم ٣٨٦٧١

*That ummah will never be destroyed, at whose beginning I am, at whose ending will be ̄Isâ bin Maryam and whose middle period will have Mahdî among them.*¹¹⁷

2. He (Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ) will be the final *khalîfah e râshid*.
3. He will be the final *mujaddid*.
4. He will reach the highest level of sainthood (*wildâyah*).

¹¹⁵ *Jâmi'* at Tirmidî vol.2 p.47

¹¹⁶ Al Kaukab Ad Durri vol.2 p.57

¹¹⁷ *Kanz ul 'Ummâl* vol.14 p.266, Hadîth 38671

5. The following narration describes him to be one of the leaders in paradise,

عن أنس بن مالك رضي الله عنه قال : سمعت رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم يقول : نحن ولد عبد المطلب سادة أهل الجنة ، أنا وحزرة وعلي وعصر والحسن والحسين والمهدي . ابن ماجة ٣٠٠

Hadrat Anas bin Mâlik narrates that he heard *Rasûlullâh* saying, "We, the progeny of *Abdul Muttalib* will be the leaders in paradise, myself, *Hamzah*, *‘Ali*, *Ja‘far*, *Hasan*, *Husayn* and *Mahdî*."¹¹⁸

This narration is not among the fabricated narrations of *Sunan Ibn Mâjah*. There are *mutâbi‘* (see footnote 58) narrations for it, as well as narrations that corroborate this one.

6. He will be blessed by Allâh with great spiritual strength.

7. His status is directly below that of the *Khulafâ‘ e Râshidîn*.

Hadrat Maulânâ Muhammad Idrîs Kândehlawî writes regarding this,

'Imâm Mahdî is the final *khalîfah e râshid* of the *ummah* of *Rasûlullâh*. His status is after that of *Hadrat Abû Bakr* and *Hadrat ‘Umar* according to majority of the *‘ulemâ‘'.¹¹⁹*

8. All the inhabitants of the heavens and the earth will love him.

9. The first *salâh* that *Hadrat ‘Isâ* will perform after his descent will be as a follower of *Hadrat Mahdî*. This is a form of honour for this *ummah*. (A distinguished person of this *ummah* behind whom a *Nâbî* will perform *salâh*)

10. He will not be a *Nâbî* or a *Râsûl*. *Wahî* will not come to him, and he will not claim *nubuwwah*. No one will believe him to be a *Nâbî*.

We learn from this that the person who claims to be the *Mahdî* as well as a *Nâbî* is a liar. (Similarly, all those that claimed to be the *Mahdî* until today are also liars)

11. *Hadrat Mahdî* will be the *khalîfah* and the ruler of the Muslims until the descent of *Hadrat ‘Isâ*.

12. *Hadrat ‘Isâ* will hold the status of leader (*amîr*) after his descent, and *Hadrat Mahdî* will hold the status of minister (*wazîr*). They will consult with one another.

Hadrat Maulânâ Muhammad Yûsuf Ludhiyânwi writes regarding this,

Hadrat ‘Isâ will be the *khalîfah* after his descent. This position of his is part of the creed of the Muslims. It is for this reason that *Hadrat Mahdî* will hand the matters of the *khilâfah* over to him after his descent and he (*Hadrat Mahdî*) will become one of his ministers. All the Muslims will obey him. For this reason, there will be no need for any claims, nor any election or selection.¹²⁰

¹¹⁸ *Sunan Ibn Mâjah* p.300

¹¹⁹ *Al Qaul al Muhkam fi Nuzûl ‘Isâ bin Maryam*, well known as *Nuzûl e ‘Isâ wa Zuhûr e Mahdî*

¹²⁰ *Al Mahdi wa Al Masîh* p.21

REMAINING HIDDEN UNTIL HIS EMERGENCE

After the study of Ahādīth we realize that the emergence of Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ has been kept hidden until a specified time. When the time for his emergence comes, this secret will suddenly be opened for the people by Allāh ﷺ. It is also surprising to note that Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ will not be acquainted with his status. This is learnt from the following narration,

عَنْ عَلِيٍّ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ : قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ : الْمَهْدِيُّ مَنَا
أَهْلُ الْبَيْتِ يَصْلِحُهُ اللَّهُ فِي لَيْلَةٍ . ابْنُ مَاجَةَ ۖ ۲۳۱۰ مُسْنَدُ أَحْمَدَ ۖ ۱۷۰۶

Hadrat 'Alī ﷺ narrates that Rasūlullāh ﷺ said, "Mahdī will be from us, the Ahl al Bayt, Allāh will bless him with the capacity overnight."¹²¹

Shaykh 'Abdul Ghāni Dehlawī رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ writes in the commentary of this Hadīth,

أَيْ يَصْلِحُهُ اللَّهُ فِي لَيْلَةٍ أَيْ يَصْلِحُهُ لِلْأَمَارَةِ وَالْخِلَافَةِ بِغَاءَةً وَبَغْتَةً . أَنْجَاحُ
الْحَاجَةِ

Allāh will bless him with the capacity to rule and hold the position of *khalīfah* suddenly overnight.¹²²

¹²¹ Sunan Ibn Mājah vol.2 p.310, Musnad Ahmad vol.1 p.106

¹²² Anjāh Al Hājāh

Allāmah Ibn Kathīr رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ وَسَلَامُهُ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ وَسَلَامُهُ writes in the commentary of this Hadīth,
أَيْ يَنْوِبَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَيَوْقِنَهُ وَيَلْهَمَهُ وَيَرْشِدَهُ بَعْدَ أَنْ لَمْ يَكُنْ كَذَلِكَ . النَّهَايَةُ وَ

الفتن والملاحم ۱۳۱

Allāh will bless him with His special favour and will grant him divine ability, thereby inspiring him with this reality and making him acquainted with his position of which he was unaware.¹²³

The characteristics and good qualities of Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ will remain hidden and unknown until the time for his emergence. For this reason, none will recognize him. Once the time for his emergence comes, in His infinite power, Allāh ﷺ will create all the abilities within him to rule in a single night. Due to this, his being the *Mahdī* will become so clear and open that a simpleton will be able to recognize him easily. His emergence will be loved and adored by all because of the great trials that will be present at that time.

Hadrat Maulānā Badr e 'Ālam Mīrthī رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ وَسَلَامُهُ writes, A deep reality is opened up by means of this. And that is, some people in whose hearts *īmān* is weak will question, when Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ will have such open fame, then how can he remain unrecognized by the general populace and the elite? The reason for this is that it cannot be understood that people will be waiting for his emergence at the time of great calamities and troubles. However, this sentence, 'Allāh will bless him with the capacity overnight' has solved this difficulty. Even though many people possess these qualities, his (Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ's) inner works and spirituality will remain hidden by the will of Allāh. This will remain until the time for his emergence comes, for then, his inner

¹²³ An Nihāyah fi Al Fitān wa Al Malaḥim vol.1 p.31

specialities will be brought out in the open in a single night. It is as though this is a manifestation of the power (of Allâh) that none will be able to recognize him before his emergence. Once the time comes, then through the power of Allâh ﷺ, all the abilities will be created in him overnight. After this, it will be open even to a blind person that he is the *Mahdî*.

Look at how the emergence of *Dajjâl* is proven from authentic *Ahâdîth*, but how much is this proven reality hidden just before his emergence? Since seeing that these incidents are to happen in an age full of trials, it is a *fitnah* on its own to desire the emergence of *Mahdî* and the presence of *Dajjâl* and delve into this subject.¹²⁴

WHEN WILL THE MAHDÎ EMERGE?

The emergence of *Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ is greatly emphasized in the *Ahâdîth*. We have also been given definite information that after his emergence, the Muslim *ummah* will develop and prosper. At the same time, the exact year and month has not been specified.

The conditions of the Muslim *ummah* at that time can be gauged to a great degree from the *Ahâdîth*. From these *Ahâdîth*, it can be learnt that the time for his emergence is close.

¹²⁴ Tarjumân us Sunnah vol.4 pp.404-405

THE GENERAL CONDITION OF THE UMMAH WHEN THE TIME OF HIS EMERGENCE IS CLOSE

1. The earth would have been filled with oppression and tyranny.

2. The oppression will be so great that no place of refuge would be found. *Hâkim* رحمه الله has transmitted the following narration in this regard,

عن أبي سعيد الخدري رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : ينزل باليه شدید من سلطانهم حتى يضيق الأرض عنهم فيبعث الله رجلا من عترتي فيما لا يقدر على إرضاعه وعلمه وتجهيزه

مستدرک حاکم

Abû Sa'îd Al Khudrî رضي الله عنه narrates that *Rasûlullâh* ﷺ said, "Great difficulties will come upon my ummah from their rulers, until the earth will become straightened upon them. Allâh will then send a person from my family who will fill the earth with justice and equity just as it was filled with oppression and tyranny."

3. People will be spitting at one another.

عن علي رضي الله عنه قال : لا يخرج المهدى حتى يبصق بعضكم في وجه بعض . منتخب كنز العمال ٦/٣٣

It is narrated from Hadrat 'Ali ﷺ that he said, "Mahdî will not appear until that time wherein you will be spitting in one another's faces."¹²⁵

According to the research of Muftî Nizâm ud Dîn Shâmzî رحمه الله, this Hadîth can be relied upon.¹²⁶

4. Taking the name of Allâh ﷺ will be a crime deserving capital punishment.

إذا قال الرجل "الله الله" قتل . مستدرک حاکم ٤/٥٥٤

When a person will say, 'Allâh, Allâh', he will be killed.¹²⁷

5. The *ummah* will face many tests.

6. There will be great differences and earthquakes, i.e. very troubled conditions.

7. *Dîn* will decline.

8. There will be a flood of *fitnah*.

9. The conditions will be such that the Muslims will say out of hopelessness, 'Will *Mahdî* ever come?' i.e. people will lose hope with regards to the emergence of Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ.

¹²⁵ Muntakhab Kanz al 'Ummâl vol.6 p.33

¹²⁶ 'Aqîdah Zuhûr e Mahdî p.70

¹²⁷ Mustadrak Hâkim vol.4 p.554

عن ابن عباس رضي الله عنه قال يبعث المهدى بعد أياس و حتى يقول الناس
"لا مهدى". الحاوي ٢٧٦

It is narrated from Ibn 'Abbâs ﷺ that he said, "Mahdî will emerge after a state of hopelessness and the people will say, 'There is no Mahdî'.

10. The Satanic powers will have dominance in the world.

11. Crookedness would have been created in the hearts of the Muslims.

12. There will be no importance given to *dîn* or the *shari'ah*.

13. *Harâm* will be understood to be *halâl*.

14. Good will be taken to be evil and evil will be taken to be good.

The conditions that will come over the *ummah* can be understood from the following Hadîth,

عن ثوبان رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : يوشك الامم أن تداعى عليكم كما تداعى الاكلة إلى قصعتها ، فقال قائل : ومن قاتلنا نحن يومئذ؟ قال : بل أنتم يومئذ كثیر ، ولكنكم غثاء السيل ولینز على الله من صدور عدوكم المهابة منكم ، وليرثون الله في قلوبكم الوهن ، فقال قائل : يا رسول الله وما الوهن؟ قال : حب الدنيا وكراهية الموت . أبو داود

Hadrat Thaubân ﷺ narrates that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "A time will come upon you in which nations will invite one another to attack you like people are invited to eat from the food cloth. (Those who partake of the meals surround the food cloth. Similarly, these groups of non-Muslims will surround the Muslims). The sahâbah ﷺ asked, "O messenger of Allâh, will our numbers be very few on that day?" Rasûlullâh ﷺ replied, "No, you will be in great numbers at that time, but, (with regards to dîn), you will be like the scum of the flood waters. Awe for you will leave the hearts of the enemies and you will fall prey to 'wahn'. A person asked, "What is wahn?" He ﷺ said, "Love of this world and fear of death."¹²⁸

BIOGRAPHIC DETAILS OF THE MAHDI

NAME AND LINEAGE

The name of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ is Muhammad, son of 'Abdullâh. His family relation is to the *Ahl al Bayt*, i.e. the Banû Hâshim. His father's lineage is traced back to Hadrat Hasan ﷺ. He is therefore a Hasani Sayyid from this side. He is traced back to Hadrat Husayn ﷺ - the martyr of Karbala - from his mother's side, making him a Husayni Sayyid.

In essence, the narrations regarding this differ. Some state that he is Hasani, while others state that he is Husayni. Imâm Abû Dâwûd رحمه اللہ has recorded the following narration in his *Sunan*,
 قال أبو داؤد : وحدثت عن هارون بن المغيرة ، قال : حدثنا عمرو بن أبي
 قيس ، عن شعيب بن خالد ، عن اسحق قال : قال علي رضي الله عنه ونظر إلى

¹²⁸ Sunan Abû Dâwûd vol.2 p.590, Hadith 4297

ابنه الحسن فقال : "إن ابني هذا سيد ، كما سماه النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم وسيخرج من صلبه رجل يسمى باسم نبيكم صلى الله عليه وسلم" . أبو داؤد ٤٢٩٠ رقم ٢٥٨٩

Hadrat 'Ali ﷺ is reported to have said, while looking at his son, Hasan, "This son of mine is a leader, just as Rasûlullâh ﷺ called him a *Sayyid*. A person will be born from his progeny whose name will correspond to the name of your Nâbî."

حدثنا الوليد ورشدین ، عن ابن هبیعة ، عن أبي قبیل ، عن عبد الله بن عمرو رضی الله عنه قال : يخرج رجل من ولد الحسین من قبل المشرق ، لو استقبله الجبال هدمها وانخد فیها طرقا . أخرجه الحاکم وابن عساکر كما في الحاوی ٢٨٦

Hadrat 'Abdullâh bin 'Amr ﷺ is reported to have said, "A man from the progeny of Husayn will emerge from the east. Even if a mountain has to come his way, he will destroy it and make his path across."¹²⁹

After studying these two apparent contradictions, read the two answers provided by the author of *Nibrâs*. He writes,
 اختلف في أن المهدى من أولاد الحسن أو الحسين رضي الله عنهما؟ والراجح

هو الأول ، كما رواه أبو داؤد عن علي رضي الله عنه. رقم الحديث ٤٢٩٠
 وجمع بعضهم بأنه من صلب حسني وبطن حسينية . نبراس ٣١٦

¹²⁹ Al Hâwi vol.2 p.66

Scholars are of differing views as to the lineage of Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ. Some say that he is of the progeny of Hadrat Hasan ﷺ, while others are of the view that he is from the progeny of Hadrat Husayn ﷺ. The preferred view is that he is from the progeny of Hadrat Hasan ﷺ. A narration of Hadrat 'Alī ﷺ, transmitted by Imām Abū Dāwūd رضي الله عنه corroborates this. Some scholars have reconciled the two views, stating that his father will be from the progeny of Hadrat Hasan ﷺ and his mother will be from the progeny of Hadrat Husayn ﷺ.

A point worthy of note:

Ibn al Qayyim Al Jauzî رضي الله عنه writes,

وَفِي كُونِهِ مِنْ وَلَدِ الْحَسَنِ سُرْ لَطِيفٌ، وَهُوَ أَنَّ الْحَسَنَ تَرَكَ الْخِلَافَةَ لِلَّهِ . فَجَعَلَ اللَّهُ مِنْ وَلَدِهِ مَنْ يَقُولُ بِالْخِلَافَةِ الْحَقُّ، الْمُتَضْمِنُ لِلْعَدْلِ الَّذِي يَمْلأُ الْأَرْضَ .
وَهَذِهِ سَنَةُ اللَّهِ فِي عِبَادِهِ أَنَّهُ مِنْ تَرَكٍ لِأَجْلِهِ شَيْئًا أَعْطَاهُ اللَّهُ أَوْ أَعْطَى ذَرِيَّتَهُ أَفْضَلَ مِنْهُ . الْمَنَارُ الْمَنِيفُ لَابْنِ الْقَيْمِ الْجَوَزِيَّةِ ١٥١ كَذَا قَالَ الْمَنَاوِيُّ فِي فِيسْ

الْقَدِيرِ ٦٢٧٩

There is a subtle point worthy of note in Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ being from the progeny of Hadrat Hasan ﷺ. That is, Hadrat Hasan ﷺ stepped down from the *khilāfah* for the pleasure of Allāh ﷺ. In lieu of this, Allāh ﷺ has decreed a person to emerge from his progeny who will establish the true *khilāfah*. It will be so just that the earth would be filled with justice. It is the way of Allāh ﷺ among His servants that he who leaves something for the pleasure of Allāh ﷺ, Allāh ﷺ will bless him or his children with something better.¹³⁰

¹³⁰ Al Manār Al Munīf p.151, Fayd al Qadīr vol.6 p.279

Note: It is known from some narrations that Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ will be from the progeny of Hadrat 'Abbās ﷺ.

اللَّهُمَّ انْصُرْ الْعَبَاسَ وَوَلَدَ الْعَبَاسِ ثَلَاثَ . يَا عَمَّ أَمَّا عَلِمْتَ أَنَّ الْمَهْدِيَّ مِنْ

وَلَدَكَ مُوفِّقاً ، رَضِيَاً ، مَرْضِيَاً . مَتَخَبِّبٌ كَنْزُ الْعِمَالِ ٦٣١

Rasūlullāh ﷺ said, "O Allāh, help 'Abbās and the children of 'Abbās. (He ﷺ said this thrice). O my uncle, do you not know that Mahdī will be from your progeny. He will be guided, pleased and will be pleased with."¹³¹

The compiler of *Kanz ul Ummāl* states after recording this narration that the narrators in the chain are reliable. In some chains of this narration, Muḥammad bin Zakariyyā Al Ghallābī is found. He is not reliable. Some scholars have said that he used to fabricate *Aḥādīth*.¹³²

If this narration is accepted, then it is possible that Rasūlullāh ﷺ pointed to Hadrat 'Abbās ﷺ for this reason that he was the sole elder of the family at that time. It is common to refer to the progeny of someone by linking them to the elders or responsible people of the family.

Note: In some books, it is stated that the name of the mother of Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ is Āmina. We could not find a reliable source for this.

TITLE

His well-known title is *Mahdī*, meaning 'guided' (one who has received guidance to the truth from Allāh ﷺ and together with this, he becomes a means of guidance for others). Every pious,

¹³¹ Muntakhab Kanz ul 'Ummāl vol.6 p.31

¹³² Al Mughnī vol.2 p.300

guided person who treads the straight path can be called 'Mahdi' in accordance to the lexical implication of the word. However, as a definition of the *Ahl us Sunnah* (which in reality is the definition of the *shari'ah*), *Mahdi* refers to that honourable personality whose emergence before Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ has been prophesized in *mutawâtil* (see footnote 50) *Ahâdîth*. In conditions of despair, he will bring hope. He will be a means of elevating the *ummah* on a global level. His special signs and recognizable conditions are explained in authentic *Ahâdîth* that have authentic chains of transmission. These signs cannot be applied to anyone besides this special *Mahdi*.

THE WORD 'IMÂM' OR 'ALAYHI AS SALÂM' TOGETHER WITH THE NAME OF MAHDÎ

THE WORD 'IMÂM'

Some people use the word 'imâm' with the name of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ. Some of our scholars have given permission for this. This permission is backed by sound proof as well. However, it is appropriate not to use the word upon the basis of 'saddan lil bâb'.¹³³ This word should not be used as a technical definition for him, nor is it correct to use it upon the basis of its lexical meaning. The reason for this is that a doubt is created about bringing a shî'ite viewpoint into vogue. This viewpoint is that the twelve individuals whom the shî'as believe to be sinless are referred to with the title 'imâm'. Therefore, there would be confusion in using

¹³³ *Saddan lil Bâb* is translated as closing the door, i.e. to institute such a ruling that will close the door in the face of other incorrect things (before they could occur). – [T]

the word 'imâm' when considering the usage of it by the shî'as. It will be better to leave it out. The reason for not using it upon the basis of its lexical meaning is that this word is not used even for people who are much higher in status than Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ, like the *khulafâ' e râshidîn*.

THE WORD 'ALAYHI AS SALÂM'

Some people use the word 'alayhi as salâm' together with the title *Mahdi*. According to common usage (*urf*), this is special with the messengers and the angels. Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ is neither a messenger, nor an angel. Therefore, the word 'alayhi as salâm' should not be used with his name. It is appropriate to use the word 'radiyallâhu anhu' (ﷺ).

Subsequently, our honourable teacher, Hadrat Muftî Sa'îd Ahmad Pâlanpûrî writes in his unique commentary of *Hujjatullâh al Bâlighâ*, titled *Rahmatullâh al Wâsi'a*,

Note: Hadrat Shâh Waliullâh ﷺ has used the word 'alayhi as salâm' in his Friday sermons for Hadrat Hasan ﷺ and Hadrat Husayn ﷺ, whereas the belief of *imâmah* is that of the shî'as. The reason put forward that it was possibly used in the lexical meaning is incorrect because this word was not used with the names of the *khulafâ' e râshidîn*, whereas they were more deserving of it. Similarly, many authors use the word 'alayhi as salâm'. This cannot be correct in any way according to the *ahl us sunnah* because the belief of *imâmah* and infallibility is that of the shî'as.¹³⁴

¹³⁴ *Rahmatullâh al Wâsi'a* vol.1 p.85

Maulânâ Khayr Muhammad Jâlandhârî رحمه اللہ has written along similar lines in reply to a question recorded in *Khayr al Fatâwâ* vol.1 p.147.

In summary, '*Imâm Mahdi* ع' is an effect of shism that has become famous among people. It could also be said or written unknowingly out of intense love. It is necessary to refrain from it.

Whether it is correct or not to use the word '*radiyallâhu anhu*' remains to be discussed. To use the word '*radiyallâhu anhu*' after his emergence will be permissible in the light of the various narrations regarding him. One narration of *Kanz ul Ummâl* vol.14 p.270, *Hadîth* 38586 is quoted below,

يرضي عنه ساكن السماء وساكن الأرض

The inhabitants of the skies and the earth will be pleased with him.

Note: The word '*Imâm*' has been used a lot in the *Ahâdîth* for Hadrat Mahdî ع. It is for this reason that a great number of the early and contemporary scholars have been using the word '*Imâm*'. However, because the belief of *imâmah* is a foundational and important belief of the shî'as, it is appropriate for us to refrain from using it.

وللناس في ما يعشقون مذاهب

For people is that which their way loves

The summary of this discussion is that the appropriate title is Hadrat Mahdî ع.

PLACE OF ORIGIN

عن ام سلمة زوج النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قال : "يكون اختلاف عند موت خليفة ، فيخرج رجل من أهل المدينة هاربا إلى مكة فيأتيه ناس من أهل مكة فيخرجونه وهو كاره فيبايعونه بين الركن والمقام الخ . أبو داؤد ٢٥٨٩

Hadrat Umm e Salamah radiyallâhu anha - the wife of Rasûlullâh ﷺ narrates that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "There will be difference of opinion upon the death of a khalifah. A person will run from Madînah to Makkah. The people of Makkah will come to him to bring him out for imâmah, but he will dislike it. The people will then pledge allegiance to him at the place between Maqâm Ibrâhîm and the Hîjrah."¹³⁵

The home and place of birth of Hadrat Mahdî ع is Madînah Munawwarah, and the place of his emergence is Makkah Mukarramah. He will migrate to *Bayt al Muqaddas* (in Shâm) with the objective of making *dîn* reign high. Mullâ 'Alî al Qârî رحمه اللہ writes in *Sharh Fiqh al Akbar*,

أن المهدى يظهر أولا في الحرمين الشريفين ، ثم يأتي بيت المقدس الخ . شرح فقه الأكبر ١٣٦

Hadrat Mahdî ع will first emerge in the *Haramayn*, and then he will go to *Bayt al Muqaddas*.¹³⁶

¹³⁵ Sunan Abû Dâwûd vol.2 p.589

¹³⁶ Sharh Fiqh al Akbar p.136

PHYSICAL FEATURES

Hadrat Shâh Rafi' ud Dîn Dehlawî ﷺ writes with regards to the physical features of Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ,

'He will be moderately tall, his body will be agile, his colour will be clear and his face will be similar to that of Rasûlullâh ﷺ. His character will also resemble that of Rasûlullâh ﷺ to a complete degree.'¹³⁷

The physical features of Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ have been vaguely explained in the Ahâdîth together with his name and lineage. The reason for this is that there will be no confusion in identifying him. A narration of *Sunan Abû Dâwûd* about this is as follows,

عن أبي سعيد الخدري رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : المهدى مني أجيلى الجبهة أقنى الأنف يملأ الأرض قسطا و عدلا كمّا ملئت جورا و ظلما يعيش هكذا ، وبسط يساره واصبعين من يمينه المساواة والإيمان وعقد ثلاثة . هذا حديث صحيح على شرط مسلم ، ولم يخرجاه

٢/٥٨٨

Hadrat Abû Sa'îd al Khudrî ﷺ narrates that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "The Mahdî will be from my progeny. He will have a wide forehead and a high thin nose. He will fill the earth with equity and justice just as it was filled with oppression and tyranny. He will rule for seven years."¹³⁸

Two physical features of Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ have been mentioned in this Hadîth for those who will see him. One is that he will have a luminous wide forehead. Second, he will have a high nose. Both of these show the beauty, elegance and handsomeness

¹³⁷ 'Alâmât e Qiyâmat p.10

¹³⁸ Sunan Abû Dâwûd vol.2 p.588

of man. This is why these two things were also found in the figure of Rasûlullâh ﷺ.¹³⁹

The meaning of mentioning these two features should be taken that he (Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ) will be handsome and elegant. However, the basic sign by means of which he will be recognized in his works, that he will bring an end to oppression and tyranny. Our world will become a world of equity and justice.¹⁴⁰

A narration of a similar nature is recorded in *Mustadrak* Hâkim,

عن أبي سعيد الخدري رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : المهدى منا أهل البيت أشم الأنف ، أقنى ، أجيلى يملأ الأرض قسطا و عدلا كمّا ملئت جورا و ظلما يعيش هكذا ، وبسط يساره واصبعين من يمينه المساواة والإيمان وعقد ثلاثة . هذا حديث صحيح على شرط مسلم ، ولم يخرجاه

مستدرك للحاكم ٤/٦٠٠ رقم ٨٦٧٠

Hadrat Abû Sa'îd al Khudrî ﷺ narrates that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "The Mahdî is from us – the *Ahl al Bayt* – his nose will be straight and long and his forehead will be wide. He will fill the earth with equity and justice just as it was filled with oppression and tyranny. He will live so many years." (After saying this) Rasûlullâh ﷺ (spreading his five fingers) opened his left hand and two fingers of his right hand (the index and thumb), keeping the other three closed. (He had seven fingers open in total).¹⁴¹

¹³⁹ Shamâ'il e Tirmidî p.2

¹⁴⁰ Ma'ârif al Hadîth vol.8 p.171

¹⁴¹ Mustadrak Hâkim vol.4 p.600 Hadîth 8670

Some narrations explain the bodily features of Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ,

عَنْ عَلَيْ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: الْمَهْدِيُّ فُتَىٰ مِنْ قَرِيشٍ أَدْمَ ضَرَبَ مِنَ الرِّجَالِ.

مُتَّخِبٌ كَنْزِ الْعَمَالِ ٦٣٤

It is narrated from Hadrat 'Ali ﷺ that he said, "The Mahdī is a young man from the *Quraysh*, of wheatish colour and his build will be thin and tall."¹⁴²

Three of his bodily features are explained in the above texts. However, as far as his signs are concerned, this much is narrated that his life will resemble that of Rasūlullāh ﷺ. It cannot be denied that together with knowledge, practice, perfection in spirituality and character, his physical features will be a means of attracting and drawing people towards him.

Imām Abū Dāwūd رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ has mentioned under the narration of Hadrat Umm e Salamah *radiyallāhu anha*,

يُشَبِّهُ فِي الْخُلُقِ وَلَا يُشَبِّهُ فِي الْخَلْقِ . أَبُو دَاؤِدَ ٢/٥٨٩ رقم ٤٢٩٠

Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ will resemble Rasūlullāh ﷺ in character but not in physical features.¹⁴³

The author of *Badhl ul Majhūd* writes,

(يُشَبِّهُ فِي الْخُلُقِ) أَيْ فِي أَخْلَاقِ الْعَالِيَّةِ (وَلَا يُشَبِّهُ فِي الْخَلْقِ) أَيْ فِي ظَاهِرِ

الصُّورَةِ . بَذْلُ الْمَجْهُودِ ٣/٥١٠

Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ will resemble Rasūlullāh ﷺ in lofty character but not in physical features.

It also becomes clear that it is a great sign for the recognition of Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ for his character to resemble that of Rasūlullāh ﷺ. It is also known that it is not necessary that he resembles Rasūlullāh ﷺ completely in physical appearance.

THE EMERGENCE OF MAHDÎ AND GENERAL CONDITIONS OF THAT ERA AND HOW WILL THE EMERGENCE OF MAHDÎ TAKE PLACE?

We cannot specify the time of the emergence of Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ. However, many *Ahâdîth* mention the incidents surrounding his emergence. The summary of these narrations is that a *khalifah* will pass away. There will be difference of opinion regarding the leadership, i.e. who should be made the leader. A capable person from Madinah Munawwarah (Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ, who would be until then unknown by the people) will go to Makkah Mukarramah. He will have the fear that people would make him the *khalifah*. He will not like to accept the post of *khilâfah*. He will strive to keep himself hidden but the people of Makkah Mukarramah will recognize this handsome capable person. Despite him not wanting it, people will begin to pledge allegiance at his hands at the place between the *Hijr al Aswad* and *Maqâm Ibrâhîm*. The people who pledge allegiance at the blessed hands of Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ first will number three hundred and thirteen, corresponding to the number of participants in the battle of Badr

¹⁴² Muntakhab Kanz ul 'Ummâl vol.6 p.34

¹⁴³ Sunan Abû Dâwûd vol.2 p.589, Hadith 4290

and to the followers of Tâlût.¹⁴⁴ These three hundred and thirteen luminaries will have a very high level of *imân* and they will be the best of all the people of every era after those of the *khayr al qurûn*.¹⁴⁵ Then, as the news will spread, the sincere ones will form different groups and join Hadrat Mahdi. A group will come from the east and will help Hadrat Mahdi in the establishment of his rule. The following narrations explain this,

حدثنا حرملة بن يحيى المصري وابراهيم بن سعيد الجوهري قالا : حدثنا أبو صالح عبد الغفار بن داؤد الحراني قال : حدثنا ابن هبيرة ، عن أبي زرعة عمرو بن جابر الحضرمي ، عن عبد الله بن الحارث بن جزء الزبيدي رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : يخرج ناس من المشرق فيؤطون للمهدي يعني سلطانه . سنن ابن ماجة ٣٠٠ رقم ٤٠٨٨

Hadrat Abdullâh bin al Hârith bin Juz az Zabîdî says that Rasûlullâh said, "People will come from the east and help Hadrat Mahdi."

After going into extensive detail with regards to the narrators of this Hadîth, Hadrat Mufti Nizâm ud Dîn Shâmzî says that this Hadîth can be relied upon. This is because no one has classified it as *maudû* (see footnote 85).

¹⁴⁴ According to the famous view, there were three hundred and thirteen *sâhâbah* in the battle of Badr, and those who followed the guidance of Hadrat Tâlût and went forward to face Jâlût also numbered three hundred and thirteen.

¹⁴⁵ The best of eras. They are the eras of Rasûlullâh, the *sâhâbah* and the *tâbi'în*. – [T]

The *Abdâl* from 'Irâq, Shâm and Yemen will also come and pledge allegiance at the hands of Hadrat Mahdi.

In the initial stages, the army of Hadrat Mahdi will be ill-equipped. However, due to the blessings that will come from the help and assistance from Allâh, he will progress.

أخبرنا عبد الرزاق ، عن معاذ ، عن قتادة يرفعه إلى النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قال : "يكون اختلاف عند موت خليفة ، فيخرج رجل من المدينة فيأتي مكة ، فيستخرجه الناس من بيته وهو كاره ، فيباعونه بين الركن والمقام ، فيبعثه إلى جيش من الشام ، حتى إذا كانوا بالبيداء خسف بهم ، فيأتيه عصائب العراق وأبدال الشام ، فيباعونه فيستخرج الكنوز ويقسم المال ، ويلقى الإسلام يحرانه إلى الأرض ، يعيش في ذلك سبع سنين أو قال تسع سنين . مصنف عبد الرزاق ١١٣٧١ رقم ٢٠٧٦٩ أبو داؤد رقم ٤٢٨٦

Hadrat Qatâdah narrates that Rasûlullâh said, "There will be difference of opinion after the demise of a *khalîfah*. A person will leave Madinah for Makkah. The people will take him out of his home and pledge allegiance at his hands at the place between the *Hîjr* and *Maqâm* while he will dislike it. An army will be dispatched from Shâm to face him. When that army will reach *Baydâ'*, it will be swallowed by the earth. Then groups from 'Irâq and the *Abdâl* from Shâm will arrive and pledge allegiance at his hands. He will take out

the treasures and distribute it. Islâm will be established in the earth and he will live in these conditions for seven or nine years.¹⁴⁶

عن حفصة رضي الله عنها أنها سمعت النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم يقول: ليؤمن هذا البيت جيش يغزونه حتى إذا كانوا ببيداء من الأرض يخسف بأوسطهم، وينادي أوا لهم آخرهم ثم يخسف بهم فلا يقى إلا الشريد الذي يخبر عنهم فقال رجل أشهد عليك أنك لم تكذب على حفصة. وأشهد على حفصة أنها لم تكذب على النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم. مسلم رقم ٢٣٨٨

٢٨٨٣

*Hadrat Hafsah radiyallâhu anha narrates that she heard Rasûlullâh ﷺ saying, "An army will definitely head for this house (the Baytullâh). When they reach Baydâ', the centre part of the army will be swallowed by the earth. The front part of the army will call out to the rear part of the army; the earth will swallow them too. None will be saved except the informant."*¹⁴⁷

حدثني محمد بن حاتم بن ميمون ، حدثنا الوليد بن صالح ، حدثنا عبيد الله بن عمرو ، أخبرنا زيد بن أبي انيسة ، عن عبد الملك العامري ، عن يوسف بن ماهك قال : أخبرني عبد الله بن صفوان ، عن ام المؤمنين رضي الله عنها أن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم قال : سيعود بهذا البيت يعني الكعبة قوم

¹⁴⁶ Musannaf 'Abdur Razzâq vol.11 p.371, Hadith 20769, Sunan Abû Dâwûd, Hadith 4286

¹⁴⁷ Sahîh Muslim vol.2 p.388, Hadith 2883

ليست لهم منعة ولا عدد ولا عدة ، يبعث إليهم جيش حتى إذا كانوا ببيداء من الأرض خسف بهم . قال يوسف : وأهل الشام يومئذ يسرون إلى مكة ، فقال عبد الله بن صفوان أم والله ما هو بهذا الجيش . قال زيد : وحدثني عبد الملك العامري ، عن عبد الله بن سابط ، عن الحارث بن أبي ربيعة ، عن أم المؤمنين بمثل حديث يوسف بن ماهك غير أنه لم يذكر فيه الجيش الذي ذكره عبد الله بن صفوان . مسلم ٢٣٨٨

*Umm al Mu'minîn radiyallâhu anha narrates that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "A nation that will not have the ability to defend themselves will seek protection at the Baytullâh. They will neither have the numbers nor will they be ready. An army will be dispatched to them (to face them). When this army reaches Baydâ', they will be swallowed by the earth." Yûsuf bin Mâhak – a narrator – says that the people of Shâm will march to Makkah at that time.*¹⁴⁸

THE EMERGENCE OF SUFYÂNÎ AND THE FIRST CLEAR MIRACLE OF HADRAT MAHDI ﷺ

The story of *Sufyânî* is a very important one when discussing the incidents relating to Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ. *Sufyânî*¹⁴⁹ is related to the *Quraysh* and his maternal family is the *Banû Kalb*. For this reason, the people of *Banû Kalb* will rally around him.

¹⁴⁸ Sahîh Muslim vol.2 p.388

¹⁴⁹ He will be from the progeny of Khâlid bin Yazîd bin Abû Sufyân. The title *Sufyânî* is derived from his lineage. His name will be 'Urwah.

He will be from the desert part of Damascus in Shâm. He will move to the corners of Shâm and Egypt. *Sufyânî* is a great tyrant and oppressor who will kill infants. He will carry out general massacres, and the *Sâdât*¹⁵⁰ will be targeted the most. The bellies of women will be ripped open and their children will be killed. The tribe of *Qays* will gather against him but he will kill them all. The narrations explaining this are collected below,

عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : يخرج
رجل يقال له السفياني في عمق دمشق ، وعامة من يتباهي من كلب ، فيقتل
حتى يقر بطن النساء ويقتل الصبيان ، فتجمع لهم قيس فيقتلها حتى لا يمنع
ذنب تلعة - وينخرج رجل من أهل بيتي في الحرة فيبلغ السفياني ، فيبعث له
جندا من جنده ، فيهزمه ، فيسير إليه السفياني بمن معه ، حتى إذا صار بيداء
من الأرض خسف بهم ، فلا ينجو منهم إلا المخبر عنهم . هذا حديث
صحيح الاستناد على شرط الشعixin ، ولم يخرجاه . مستدرك على الصحيحين

٤/٥٦٥ رقم ٨٥٨٦

Hadrat Abû Hurayrah ﷺ narrates that *Rasûlullâh* ﷺ said, "A person called *Sufyânî* will come out from Damascus. Most of his followers will be of the *Banû Kalb*. He will kill to such an extent that he will rip the bellies of women and murder their children. The tribe of *Qays* will gather a force against him. He will kill them until no one will remain. Then a person of my family (*Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ) will emerge from *Hira*. When this news will reach *Sufyânî*, he will send out one of his

¹⁵⁰ The progeny of *Rasûlullâh* ﷺ. - [T]

armies. He (*Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ) will defeat them all. *Sufyânî* will then face him with his own army. When they (the army of *Sufyânî*) will reach *Baydâ'*, the earth will swallow them. None of them will remain except the informant."¹⁵¹

The crux of this is that when this oppressive tyrannical person will hear of the emergence of *Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ, he will immediately send one of his armies to face *Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ. This army will head for Makkah Mukarramah and will encamp at *Baydâ'*.¹⁵² Suddenly, the centre part of the army will sink into the earth. Those at the front of the army will inform those at the back so that they do not fall into the same predicament. However, before they can resort to any plan to save themselves, they will be sunken too. The sinking of this large army into the earth will be (a manifestation of) the help of *Allâh* ﷺ and it will be a miracle that will make *Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ famous in far away lands.

عن عائشة رضي الله عنها قالت : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم :
العجب أن ناسا من أمتي يؤمدون البيت برجل من قريش قد جأ بالبيت حتى
إذا كانوا بالبيداء خسف بهم ، فقلنا يا رسول الله : إن الطريق قد يجمع الناس ،
قال : نعم ! فيهم المستبصر والمحبور وابن السبيل ، يهلكون مهلكا واحدا
ويصدرون مصادر شتى ، يبعثهم الله على نياتهم . مسلم ٢٣٨٨ رقم ٢٨٨٤
It is narrated from *Hadrat 'A'isha radiyallâhu anha* that she said,
'Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, 'It is surprising to note that a few people from my

¹⁵¹ *Mustadrak 'alâ As Sahîhayn* vol.4 p.565, *Hadith 8586*

¹⁵² *Baydâ'* is a barren land in front of *Dhul Hulayfah* in the direction of Makkah Mukarramah

ummah will set out for the Baytullâh together with a person from the Quraysh who has taken protection in the Baytullâh. When they reach Baydâ', they will be sunk into the earth." We said, "O Messenger of Allâh, there will be all types of people on the path." Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "Yes, among them will be people who are pleased, people who have been forced and travelers. They will all be destroyed at once. Allâh will then raise them up on the day of Qiyâmah according to their intentions."¹⁵³

Note: When *Sufyânî* will hear of the sinking of the army, he will set out himself for Makkah Mukarramah. He will launch an attack on Makkah Mukarramah. Under the leadership of *Hadrat Mahdi* ﷺ, the Muslims will be very weak as far as equipment is concerned. It will be like the scene of Badr, but, the help of Allâh ﷺ will come and the army of *Sufyânî* would be heavily defeated. The army of *Hadrat Mahdi* ﷺ will be victorious.

A narration transmitted by Imâm Abû Dâwûd رضي الله عنه، narrated by *Hadrat Umm e Salamah radiyallâhu anha* with regards to this is quoted hereunder,

حدثنا محمد بن الثنى ، حدثنا معاذ بن هشام ، حدثني أبي ، عن قتادة ، عن صالح أبي الخليل ، عن صاحب له ، عن أم سلمة زوج النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قال : يكون اختلاف عند موت خليفة ، فيخرج رجل من أهل المدينة هاربا إلى مكة ، ف يأتيه ناس من أهل مكة ، فيخرجونه وهو كاره ، فيباعونه بين الركن والمقام ، و يبعث إليه بعث من الشام ، فيخسف بهم بالبيداء بين مكة

¹⁵³ *Sahîh Muslim* vol.2 p.388, Hadith 2884

والمدينة ، فإذا رأى الناس ذلك أتاهم أبدال الشام وعصائب أهل العراق ، فيباعونه ، ثم ينشقونه ، ثم ينشقونه من قريش أخواه كلب فيبعث إليهم بعثا ، فيظهورون عليهم بذلك بعث كلب ، والحقيقة لمن لم يشهد غنائم كلب فيقسم المال ويعمل في الناس بسنة نبيهم صلى الله عليه وسلم ويلقى الإسلام بجرانه إلى الأرض ، فيلبيث سبع سنين ، ثم يتوفى ويصلى عليه المسلمون . أبو داؤد

٢٥٨٩

Hadrat Umm e Salamah radiyallâhu anha - the wife of Rasûlullâh ﷺ narrates that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "There will be difference of opinion upon the demise of a khalifah. A person will then run from Madînah to Makkah. The people of Makkah will bring him out and pledge allegiance at his hands at the place between the *Hîjrah* and *Maqâm Ibrâhîm* while he will dislike it. An army will be sent from Shâm to face him. This army will be sunk into the earth at Baydâ' – which is between Makkah and Madînah. When people will see this unnatural occurrence, then the abdâl from Shâm and the pious from Irâq will come in groups and pledge allegiance at his hands. A person from the Quraysh whose maternal uncle is from Banû Kalb will emerge. He will lead an army against *Hadrat Mahdi* ﷺ. They (the army of *Hadrat Mahdi* ﷺ) will defeat them. That will be the army of Kalb. It will be a loss for those not present when the spoils of Kalb will be distributed. (*Hadrat Mahdi* ﷺ) will distribute the spoils and will rule amongst the people in accordance to the sunnah of their Messenger ﷺ. Islâm will place its neck upon the earth (Islâm will gain dominance in the earth). This will remain for seven years. Then *Hadrat Mahdi* ﷺ

will pass away and the Muslims will perform the *janâzah salah* over him.¹⁵⁴

From the text 'from his companion', we learn that one narrator is *mâjhûl* (see footnote 77). However, this *mâjhûl* narrator is known from other chains. His name is 'Abdullâh bin Hâarith.

Note: After defeating *Sufyânî* and the tribe of *Kalb*, Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ will distribute the spoils of war. He will distribute it in accordance to the *sunnah* of Rasûlullâh ﷺ. The recipients will be given as much as they can carry.

The importance of the spoils of this war is highlighted in the *Ahâdîth*,

عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه مرفوعاً : المحروم من حرم غنيمة كلب ولو عقالاً ، والذي نفسي بيده لتباعن نسائهم على درج دمشق ، حتى ترد المرأة من كسر يوجد بساقها . مستدرك للحاكم رقم ٨٣٢٩

It is narrated from Hadrat Abû Hurayrah ﷺ¹⁵⁵ *that he said, "The deprived is he who is deprived of the spoils of Kalb, even if it be a iqâl.¹⁵⁶ By the being in whose control my life is, their women will be sold on the road of Damascus. A woman will be returned due to a broken shin."*¹⁵⁷

The summary of this discussion is that all the people who will be part of the recipients of the booty attained from the war

¹⁵⁴ Sunan Abû Dâwûd vol.2 p.589

¹⁵⁵ This narration is *marfû* .

¹⁵⁶ 'Iqâl refers to a cord used for hobbling the feet of a camel, or a headband made of camel's hair. – [T]

¹⁵⁷ Mustadrak of Hâkim, Hadith 8329

with *Kalb* (even though it is a *iqâl*) will be very fortunate. The person who is not part of it will be considered to be deprived. It is as though the people of truth have been encouraged to participate in the battle against *Sufyânî* and his forces in the Hadîth. Besides the booty, the women of *Kalb* will be taken as slaves and will be sold on the road of Damascus. A woman from among them will be returned because of her shin being broken.

CONQUEST OF SHÂM

The fame and acceptance of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ will become widespread after his emergence and the defeat of *Sufyânî* and his forces. The people of truth will come to him from different places in groups upon groups. He will go from Makkah Mukarramah to Madinah Munawwarah. After presenting himself at the grave of Rasûlullâh ﷺ, he will proceed to Shâm. The Romans will be ruling Shâm at that time.

We deem it appropriate to quote a detailed narration of Hadrat 'Abdullâh bin Mas'îd ﷺ, in which the wars that will be fought under the leadership of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ and other conditions are explained. Nu'aym bin Hammâd رضي الله عنه has recorded it in his '*Al Fitâ*' wherefrom 'Allâmah Suyûti has mentioned it in his '*Jâmi 'as Saghir*'. Sayyed Barzanjî رضي الله عنه has mentioned it as well in his '*Al Ishâ'a*'. The sequence of all the incidents regarding Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ is highlighted in this narration. Many parts of this narration are clearly corroborated in the *Sîhâh* books.

عن عبد الله بن مسعود رضي الله عنه قال : يكون بين المسلمين وبين الروم هدنة وصلح ، حتى يقاتلوا معهم عدوا لهم ، فيقاسمونهم غنائمهم ، ثم ان الروم يغزون مع المسلمين فارس ، فيقتلون مقاتلتهم ويسبون ذراريهم ، فيقول الروم : قاسمنا الغنائم كما قد قاسمناكم ، فيقاسمونهم الأموال وذراري الشرك ، فيقول الروم : قاسمنا ما أصبت من ذراريكم ، فيقولون : لا نقاسمكم ذراري المسلمين أبدا ، فيقولون غدرتم بنا فترجع الروم الى صاحبهم بالقسطنطينية فيقولون : ان العرب غدرت بنا ، ونحن أكثر منهم عددا ، وأتم منهم عددا ، وأشد منهم قوة ، فأمدنا نقاتلهم ، فيقول : ما كنت لأغدر بهم ، قد كانت لهم الغلبة في طول الدهر علينا ، فيأتون صاحب رومية فيخبرونه بذلك فيوجهه ثمانين غاية ، تحت كل غاية اثنا عشر ألفا في البحر ، ويقول لهم صاحبهم : إذا رسيتم بسواحل الشام فأحرقوا المراكب لقاتلوا عن أنفسكم فيفعلون ذلك ، ويأخذون أرض الشام كلها براها وبحرا ، ما خلا مدينة دمشق والمعتق ، ويخربون بيت المقدس - قال فقال ابن مسعود رضي الله عنه : وكم تسع دمشق من المسلمين ؟ قال : فقال النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم : والذي نفسي بيده لتسعن على من يأتيها من المسلمين كما يتسع الرحم على الولد - قال : قلت : وما المعتق يا نبي الله ؟ قال : جبل بأرض الشام من حصن على نهر يقال لها الأرنط ، فتكون ذراري المسلمين في أعلى المعتق والمسلمين على نهر الأرنط ، والمركون خلف نهر الأرنط يقاتلونهم صباحا

ومساء ، فإذا أبصر ذلك صاحب القسطنطينية وجه في البر الى قنسرин ستة ألف حتى تجيئهم مادة اليمن سبعين ألفا ، ألف الله قلوبهم بالإيمان ، معهم أربعون ألفا من حمير حتى يأتوا بيت المقدس فيقاتلون الروم فيهزموهم ويخرجونهم من جند الى جند ، حتى يأتوا قنسرين وتجيئهم مادة المولى ، قال : قلت وما مادة المولى يا رسول الله ؟ قال : هم عتاقكم ، وهو منكم قوم يحيئون من قبل فارس فيقولون تعصيتم يا عشر العرب ، لا نكون مع أحد من الفريقين أو تجتمع كلمتكم ، فتقاتل نزار يوما واليمن يوما والموالي يوما ، فتخرجون الروم الى العمق وينزل المسلمين على نهر يقال له كذا وكذا يعزى ، والمركون على نهر يقال له الرقية وهو النهر الأسود ، فيقاتلونهم فيرفع الله تعالى نصره عن العسكرين وينزل صبره عليهما حتى يقتل من المسلمين الثالث ، ويفر الثالث ، ويبيى الثالث ، فأما الثالث الذين يقتلون فشهيدهم كشهيد عشرة من شهداء بدر يشفع واحد من شهداء بدر لسبعين ، وشهيد الملاحم يشفع لسبعين مائة ، وأما الثالث الذين يفرون فانهم يفترقون ثلاثة أثلاث ، ثلث يلحقون بالروم ويقولون : لو كان الله بهذا الدين من حاجة لنصرهم وهم مسلمة العرب ببراء وتنوخ وطيء وسلیح - وثلث يقلن : منازل آبائنا وأجدادنا خير لا تنا لنا الروم أبدا ، مروا بنا البدو وهم الأعراب ، وثلث يقول : ان كل شيء كاسمه ، وأرض الشام كاسمها الشؤم ، فسيرا بنا الى العراق واليمن والنجار حيث لا تخاف الروم ، وأما الثالث الباقى بعضهم الى بعض

يقولون : الله الله دعوا عنكم العصبية ولتجتمع كلمتكم وقاتلوا عدوكم فانكم لن تنصروا ما تعصبتم ، فيجتمعون جميعاً ويتباينون على أن يقاتلوا حتى يلحقوا بأخوانهم الذين قتلوا ، فإذا أبصر الروم إلى من قد تحول إليهم ومن قتل ورأوا قلة المسلمين قام رومي بين الصفين معه بند في أعلىه صليب فينادي "غلب الصليب" فيقوم رجل من المسلمين بين الصفين ومعه بند فينادي "بل غلب أنصار الله ، بل غلب أنصار الله وأولياءه" فيغضب الله تعالى على الذين كفروا من قوتهم "غلب الصليب" فيقول يا جبريل أغث عبادي فينزل جبريل في مائة ألف من الملائكة ويقول : بما يكائيل أغث عبادي فينحدر ميكائيل في مائة ألف من الملائكة ، ويقول يا إسرافيل أغث عبادي فينحدر إسرافيل في ثلاثة مائة ألف من الملائكة وينزل الله تصره على المؤمنين وينزل بأسمه على الكفار فيقتلون ويهزمون ويسيرون المسلمين في أرض الروم حتى يأتوا عمورية وعلى سورها خلق كثير يقولون : ما رأينا شيئاً أكثر من الروم كم قتلنا وهزمنا وما أكثرهم في هذه المدينة وعلى سورها ، فيقولون : آمنوا على أن نؤدي إليكم الجزية ، فیأخذون الأمان لهم ولجميع الروم على أداء الجزية وتجتمع إليهم أطرافهم فيقولون : يا عشر العرب إن الدجال قد خالفكم إلى دياركم ، والخبر باطل فمن كان فيهم منكم فلا يلقين شيئاً مما معه فإنه قوة لكم على ما بقي فيخرجون فيجدون الخبر باطلاً ، ويثبت الروم على ما بقي في بلادهم من العرب فيقتلونهم حتى لا يقسى بأرض الروم عربي ولا

عربيه ولا ولد عربي إلا قتل ، فيبلغ ذلك المسلمين فيرجعون غضباً لله عزوجل فيقتلون مقاتلتهم ويسبون الذراري ويجمعون الأموال ، لا ينزلون على مدينة ولا حصن فوق ثلاثة أيام حتى يفتح لهم ، وينزلون على الخليج ويمد الخليج حتى يفيض فيصبح أهل القدسية يقولون : الصليب مد لنا بحربنا وال المسيح ناصرنا فيصبحون والخليج يابس فتضرب فيها الأخيبة ويحسر البحر عن القدسية ويحيط المسلمين بمدينة الكفر ليلة الجمعة بالتحميد والتكمير والتهليل إلى الصباح ليس فيهم نائم ولا جالس ، فإذا طلع الفجر كبر المسلمين تكبيره واحدة فيسقط ما بين البرجين ، فتقول الروم ، إنما كنا نقاتل العرب فالآن نقاتل ربنا وقد هدم لهم مديتها وخرها لهم ، فيمكثون بأيديهم ويكتلون الذهب بالأترسة ويقتسمون الذراري حتى يبلغ سهم الرجل منهم ثلاثة مائة عذراء ، ويتمتعوا بها في أيديهم ما شاء الله ، ثم يخرج الدجال حقاً ويفتح الله القدسية على يد أقوام هم أولياء الله يرفع الله عنهم الموت والمرض والسمسم حتى ينزل عليهم عيسى بن مريم عليه السلام فيقاتلهم معه الدجال - الفتنة ٣٢٣ الجامع الكبير ١٥٢٣٨ رقم ١٣٥١٥

Hadrat Abû Hurayrah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ narrates that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said¹⁵⁸ , "There will be a truce between the Muslims and the Romans (Christians). Then the Muslims and Romans will jointly war against an enemy of the Romans. They will be victorious and distribute the booty amongst

¹⁵⁸ The translation of this narration is not word for word. The understood meaning is presented here. - [T]

themselves. Then, the Romans together with the Muslims will fight against the Persians. They will kill their soldiers and imprison their children. The Romans will tell the Muslims, "Divide the booty equally between us this time just like we divided it the first time." The Muslims will divide the wealth and polytheist slaves (but not the Muslim slaves). The Romans will say that the Muslim captives should also be divided. The Muslims will say, "We shall never divide the Muslim captives." The Romans will say, "This is treachery."

The Romans will complain of this to the king of Constantinople, saying that the Muslims have betrayed us (You should therefore help us). We are much better off than the Muslims in numbers, wealth and strength. The king of Constantinople will tell them that he cannot betray the Muslims. They have been over us for a very long time. Finally, the Romans will go and complain to the king of Rome. He will send an army over sea of eighty flags, under each flag will be twelve thousand soldiers (totaling nine hundred and sixty thousand). The officers of this army will command the soldiers to burn their ships upon reaching the shores of Shâm so that they will fight for their lives. The soldiers will obey. The Christian Romans will conquer the entire Shâm except for Damascus and Mount Mu'taq. They will also destroy Bayt al Muqaddas.

In reply to a question posed by Hadrat 'Abdullah bin Mas'ûd رضي الله عنه said, "The Muslims will be great in number at that time in Damascus, and Mu'taq is a mountain near the river of Hims."

The scene could be drawn thus: the Muslim children will be at the top of Mu'taq, the Muslims will be based at the river Arnat and the polytheists will be behind the river Arnat. The armies will be on the edge of war morning and evening. When the king of Constantinople will see this, he will send an army of six hundred thousand by road to Qinnasarin. A Yemeni army of seventy thousand

will join the Muslims. Forty thousand people of the Himyar tribe will join the Yemenis. Allâh would have joined their hearts through imân. These people will come to Bayt al Muqaddas and fight the Romans. They will finally defeat them and destroy them completely, (after this) they will reach Qinnasarin.

An army of freed slaves (from Persia) will come to help the Arabs. They will say, "O Arabs, abandon tribalism. We shall never be able to help one another until we unite." Sometimes the Arabs, at other times, the Yemenis, while at other times, these slaves will fight the non Muslims. The Muslims will expel them to the farthest valleys. The Muslims will gather at a river and will be involved in finding out information from one another. The polytheists will gather at Nahr Ruqya. This river is also called Nahr Aswad. The Muslims will then fight the polytheists but Allaah will take victory away from the Muslims and bless them with patience. A third of the Muslim army will be martyred, a third will run away and a third will remain.

Every martyr of this army will earn the reward of ten martyrs of Badr. A martyr of Badr will intercede for seventy people and the martyrs of these wars of the final era will be permitted to intercede for seven hundred people.

The third that ran away will also be split into three parts. One part of them will turn renegade and join the Romans. They will say that if Allâh is in need of this dîn, then He will look after it Himself. These people will be the Arabs from Hirâ', Tannûkh, Tay' and Salih. One third will be Bedouins. They will leave for their dwellings saying that the land of our ancestors is better for us. The Romans will never be able to reach us. One third will say that the name of everything has an effect on it. That is why this land of Shâm is unfortunate just like its name is. We will go to Irâq, Yemen and Hijâz where we shall have no fear of the Romans.

The third that remained will then say that definitely we should unite and leave out tribalism. We should fight the enemy as a united army. This tribalism is a barrier in the way of our success.

They will then fight with this vision that now we shall meet our martyred brothers. The Roman army will realize the small numbers of the Muslims that a third has been killed; a third has become part of us and only the last third remains. One person will stand, taking the flag of the cross, and say, "The cross has conquered." A Muslim will then take the flag and shout from between the two rows, "The helpers of Allâh have conquered."

Allâh will be angered at this statement of the Romans and will help the Muslims with six hundred thousand angels. One hundred thousand will be under Jibril, two hundred thousand will be under Mikâ'il and three hundred thousand will be under Isrâfil. Allâh will help the Muslims and exact His vengeance upon the non-Muslims. The non-Muslims will be very badly defeated and the survivors will taste defeat disgracefully.

The Muslims will then enter Shâm and reach a place called 'Ammûriyya. Many people will be gathered at the borders of 'Ammûriyya. The Muslims will be very surprised when they see the vast number of Romans. 'How many did we not kill? How many were chased away defeated, yet we witness this scene of so many Romans in 'Ammûriyya and the surrounding areas. These people will seek amnesty from the Muslims by paying Jizya. The Muslims will be happy with their proposal and give protection to all the Romans. The Romans of the surrounding areas will spread the rumour that Dajjâl has emerged in your homeland. This news will be false. Rasûlullâh ﷺ advised those who will remain behind at that time not to leave any booty taken from the Romans behind because it would help them in the coming battles. The Muslims will leave (based on that rumour).

They will only come to know later that the news was false. The Romans will fall upon the remaining Muslims and exterminate them. No Arab man or woman will remain. The Romans will wipe out the entire generation of Arabs. Once the Muslims come to know of this, they will be angered and will return. They will fight them a second time. This time, the Muslims will kill the Roman soldiers and capture their families and children. The Muslims will gather all their wealth and goods. Allâh will bless them with victory over every city or fort they pass within three days. When the Muslims will reach the bay, the banks will overflow. The Christians will say upon witnessing this, "The banks have overflowed through the blessing of the cross in order to save us and our saviour is Masîh (Hadrat Isâ ﷺ)."

When morning arrives, they will see that the water has dried up. It has changed course for the sea at Constantinople. They will immediately encamp there. The Muslims will surround the city of kufr and will spend the night of Jumu'âh in reciting *tâhmid*, *takbîr*, and *tâhlîl*. No one will sleep or sit. All the Muslims will sound *takbîr* once in the morning. One side of the city will fall. In a state of bewilderment, the Romans will say, "Our war was with the Muslims at first. Now, we have to face the Sustainer of the universe directly. He has destroyed our entire city for the Muslims."

The Muslims will wait a while and will then distribute the spoils of war using golden shields and filling them up. The families and children will also be distributed. (The women will be so many that) three hundred women will fall in the share of a single person. The Muslims will benefit from this booty until an appointed time.

Dajjâl will then emerge in reality. Constantinople will be conquered at the hands of such pious servants of Allâh who will remain healthy. No one will fall ill, nor will any sickness trouble them,

until *Isâ* ﷺ will descend. They will fight *Dajjâl* (and his Jewish army) together with *Isâ* ﷺ."

Different pronouciations of certain words in this narration:

Mu taq, with a *tâ*. The name of a mountain.¹⁵⁹ Some narrations have *Mu naq*, with a *nûn*.¹⁶⁰ Others have it as *Mu iq*, with a *yâ*. *Arnat*, with a *nûn*.¹⁶¹ Some narrations have the word as *Arit*, with a *yâ*.¹⁶²

Ammûriya, a city of the Roman Empire.¹⁶³

There is great difference of opinion about the number of angels that will descend to help the Muslims in this war. In *Al Fitâ* and *Al Ishâ'a*, *Hadrat Jibrîl* ﷺ, *Hadrat Mikâ'il* ﷺ and *Hadrat Isrâfil* ﷺ are mentioned. In *Al Jâmi' al Kabîr* only *Hadrat Jibrîl* ﷺ and *Hadrat Mikâ'il* ﷺ are mentioned. In addition, some narrations state three hundred thousand while others state six hundred thousand.

Note: It is quite probable that some portions of this narration are quite surprising. It should be remembered that the debated narrators of this particular narration, i.e. *Ibn Lahî'ah*, *Hârith A'war* and *Muhammad bin Thâbit* are the cause for the status of it being *da'if* (see footnote 83). However, note that a lot

¹⁵⁹ *Mu'jam al Buldân* of *Hamawî* vol.8 p.286

¹⁶⁰ *Al Fitâ* of *Nu'aym bin Hammâd* رضي الله عنه

¹⁶¹ *Ibid*

¹⁶² *Al Jâmi' al Kabîr* vol.15 p.238, *Al Qâmu's*

¹⁶³ *Mu'jam al Buldân* vol.6 p.355

that was mentioned in it is corroborated by authentic *Ahâdîth* as was already explained.

We present a few narrations of *Sahîh Muslim* in this regard,

عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه أن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم قال : "لا تقوم الساعة حتى تنزل الروم بالأعماق أو ببابق ، فيخرج إليهم جيش من المدينة من خيارات أهل الأرض يومئذ ، فإذا تصافوا قالوا : خلوا بيتنا وبين الذين سبوا منا نقاتلهم ، فيقول المسلمون : لا ، والله لا نخلي بينكم وبين إخواننا ، فيقاتلونهم فينهزم ثلث لا يتوب الله عليهم أبدا ، ويقتل ثلث هم أفضل الشهداء عند الله ، ويفتح الثلث لا يفتون أبدا . فيفتحون قسطنطينية فيبياهم يقتسمون الغنائم قد علقو سيفهم بالزيتون إذ صاح فيهم الشيطان أن المسيح قد خلفكم في أهليكم ، فيخرجون وذلک باطل فإذا جاءوا الشام خرج ، فيبياهم يعدون للقتال يسرون الصفوف إذ أقيمت الصلوة ، فينزل عيسى بن مريم صلى الله عليه وسلم فآمهم ، فإذا رأه عدو الله ذاب كما يذوب الملح في الماء ، فلو تركه لانذاب حتى يهلك ، ولكن يقتله الله بيده ، فيريحهم دمه في حربته" . مسلم ٢٣٩٢ رقم ٢٨٩٧

Hadrat Abû Hurayrah رضي الله عنه narrates that *Rasûlullâh* ﷺ said, "Qiyâmah will not happen until the Romans have not encamped in *A'maq* or *Dâbiq*.¹⁶⁴ An army comprising of the best Muslims residing

¹⁶⁴ Two cities close to Aleppo and Antioch in Shâm

on earth at that time will leave for Madinah. When they stand in battle formation, the Romans will say, "Leave us and our captives to fight with those whom we have collectively taken captive." The Muslims will say, "Never, by Allâh, we shall not leave you to fight our brothers." They will then fight. A third of the Muslim army will run away. Allâh will never forgive them. Another third will be martyred. They will be the greatest martyrs in the sight of Allâh. The final third will be victorious. These victors will never become involved in any fitnah or calamity. They will conquer Constantinople. They will hang their swords on olive trees and will be distributing the spoils when suddenly Shaytân will let out a scream that Dajjâl has reached your homes in your absence.¹⁶⁵ They will leave everything and depart. When they reach Shâm, Dajjâl would have emerged. They will be forming their ranks in preparation for fighting when the time for salâh will come in. Isâ ﷺ¹⁶⁶ will descend from the heavens and lead them in salâh. The enemy of Allâh (Dajjâl) will dissolve upon his sight as salt dissolves in water. If he has to leave him, he will dissolve on his own and be destroyed. However, Allâh will kill him at the hands of Isâ who will then show the people the blood of Dajjâl on his spear."¹⁶⁷

The reason for the breaking of the treaty and war between the Muslims and Romans in the narration of Nu'aym bin Hammâd رضي الله عنه and *Sahîh Muslim* can be understood in brief from a previous battle in which the Muslims and Romans jointly defeated the Persians. They will have differing views concerning

¹⁶⁵ This will be false

¹⁶⁶ According to common usage, the sentence ﷺ is reserved for the *Ambiyâ'*. However, Rasulullâh ﷺ used it after the names of the *Ambiyâ'* on various occasions. – [T]

¹⁶⁷ *Sahîh Muslim* vol.2 p.392, Hadîth 2897

the distribution of the slaves attained as booty. This is because there will be some Muslims among the Persian captives. They would have either accepted Islâm after the war or they would have been Muslims from before and had to participate in the war against the Muslims due to governmental reasons.

A narration of *Hadrat 'Abdullâh bin Mas'ûd* رضي الله عنه about the details of the conquest of Shâm in *Sahîh Muslim* is presented forthwith,

عن يسir بن جابر قال : هاجت ريح حمراء بالكوفة فجاء رجل ليس له هجيري إلا "يا عبد الله بن مسعود جاءت الساعة؟" قال فقعد وكان متكتئا ، فقال : " ان الساعة لا تقوم حتى لا يقسم ميراث ولا يفرح بغنية ، ثم قال بيده هكذا ونحها نحو الشام فقال : عدو يجتمعون لأهل الشام ويجمع لهم أهل الإسلام ، قلت : الروم تعنى ؟ قال : نعم ، قال : ويكون عند ذاك المقتال ردة شديدة ، فيشترط المسلمون شرطة للموت لا ترجع إلا غالبة فيقتلون حتى يحجز بينهم الليل ، فيفني هؤلاء وهؤلاء كل غير غالب وتفنى الشرطة ، ثم يشترط المسلمون شرطة للموت لا ترجع إلا غالبة فيقتلون حتى يمسوا ، فيفني هؤلاء وهؤلاء كل غير غالب وتفنى الشرطة ، فإذا كان اليوم الرابع نهد إليهم بقية أهل الإسلام ، فيجعل الله الدائرة عليهم ، فيقتلون مقتلة إما قال لا يرى مثلها وإما قال : لم ير مثلها حتى أن الطائر ليمر بجنباتهم فما يخلفهم

حتى يخر ميتا ، فيتعاد بنو الأب كانوا مائة فلا يجدونه يقى منهم إلا الرجل الواحد ، فأبى غنية يفرح أو أى ميراث يقاسم ... الخ" مسلم ٢٣٩٢ رقم ٢٨٩٩

Hadrat Yasir bin Jâbir says that once there was a strong red hurricane in Kûfa. A person whose expletive was, 'Qiyâmah has come' came to Hadrat 'Abdullâh bin Mas'ûd and asked, "Has Qiyâmah come?" Hadrat 'Abdullâh bin Mas'ûd replied, "Qiyâmah will not happen until the distribution of inheritance does not stop and there will be no joy upon booty." He then indicated towards Shâm and said, "The enemy will gather to fight the Muslims and the Muslims will gather to fight the enemy." The narrator says that I asked, "Do you mean the Christians by 'the enemy'?" Hadrat 'Abdullâh bin Mas'ûd said, "Yes." He then said, "At the onset of this war, there will be great losses. A portion of the Muslim army will go forward on the condition that they will be martyred or will return victorious. They will fight until night will separate them. No one will return victorious and the Muslims will be martyred. The Muslims will send forth another part of the army on the condition that they will be martyred or will return victorious. They will fight until nightfall. No one will return victorious and this part of the Muslim army will also be martyred. The Muslims will send another part of the army on the condition that they will be martyred or will return victorious. They will fight until evening. No one will return victorious and the Muslims will be martyred.

The rest of the Muslims will stand and face them on the fourth day and Allâh will defeat the enemy. This is because a war of this nature will never been seen (or 'Abdullâh bin Mas'ûd

said), such a war has never been seen. It will be to such a degree that a bird will fly across the corpses and will die before passing them all.

When the members of a family will count his family, he will find only one percent of them left (or one person will be left). So, with which booty will he be happy with and whose inheritance will he distribute?..."

Note: Even though the Romans will be in control of most of the areas of Shâm, but the Muslims will still have control over certain areas (most probably, Damascus and the surrounding areas). There will be Roman captives with the Muslims as well. Certain narrations mention that the Roman army that will be in Shâm will be of seventy flags. Every flag will have twelve thousand soldiers under it, totaling eight hundred and forty thousand. This is one calculation. Other narrations mention other amounts.

Review the following narrations of Hadrat 'Auf bin Mâlik

عن عوف بن مالك رضي الله عنه مرفوعا في حديث طويل ، فيه "ثم هذة تكون بينكم وبين بني الأصفر ، فيغدرون فيأتونكم تحت ثمانين غاية ، تحت

كل غاية اثنا عشر ألفا" صحيح البخاري ١٤٥١

Hadrat 'Auf bin Mâlik narrates in a lengthy marfû 'Hadith that there will be a truce between you and Banû al Asfar. They will break it and come to you with an army comprising eighty flags. There will be twelve thousand soldiers under each flag.

عن عوف بن مالك رضي الله عنه مرفوعا في حديث طويل ، فيه "والسادسة هدنة تكون بينكم وبين بنى الأصفر ، فيسرون إليكم على ثمانين غاية ، قلت : وما الغاية ؟ قال : الراية ، تحت كل راية اثنا عشر ألفا ، فسطاط المسلمين يومئذ في أرض يقال لها الغوطة في مدينة يقال لها دمشق" . أحمد . حسب ترتيب الفتح السرباني ٢٤٢٥

Hadrat 'Auf bin Mâlik narrates in a lengthy marfû 'Hadith that there will be a truce between you and Banû al Asfar. They will come to you under eighty flags. Each flag will have twelve thousand soldiers under it. The Muslims will be encamped at that time in a place called Ghautah which is in Damascus.¹⁶⁸

The Roman army totals nine hundred and sixty thousand in the light of the two above-mentioned narrations.

Hadrat Mahdî will head for the Christian headquarters where majority of the population are Christians, in Rome, Italy after the conquest of Shâm.

¹⁶⁸ Ahmad vol.24 pp.24,25

CONQUEST OF CONSTANTINOPLE¹⁶⁹

'Allâmah Ibn Jarîr Tabârî' writes in his unique exegesis of the Qur'ân under the following verse,

وَمَنْ أَظْلَمُ مِنْ مَنْ مَعَ مَسَاجِدَ اللَّهِ أَنْ يُذْكَرَ فِيهَا اسْمُهُ وَسَعَى فِي خَرَابِهَا أُولَئِكَ مَا كَانَ لَهُمْ أَنْ يَدْخُلُوهَا إِلَّا خَاتِمَ الْكِتَابِ هُمْ فِي الدُّنْيَا حَزِيرٌ وَلَهُمْ فِي الْآخِرَةِ عَذَابٌ عَظِيمٌ

Who can do greater wrong than the one who prevents the name of Allâh from being taken in the Masâjid (he prevents others from salâh and from dhikr) and who does all he can to destroy them? (There can be no worse evil) Such people may only enter them (the Masâjid) in fear (unable to repeat their wrong). For them shall be disgrace (humiliation) in this world and a terrible punishment in the Âkhirah.

[Sûrah al Baqarah (the Bull) 2:114]

The verse refers to the Romans that destroyed Bayt al Muqaddas.¹⁷⁰

He writes further, in the commentary of 'For them shall be disgrace in this world', 'this refers to the conquest of Constantinople at the hands of (Hadrat Mahdî)' and the killing of the Romans.¹⁷⁰

After conquering Europe, *Hadrat Mahdî* will head for Constantinople. It is assumed that the Christians would have seized and taken control of Constantinople. Constantinople is a city like an island. From the various Ahâdîth, we assume that Constantinople will be surrounded by walls when the emergence

¹⁶⁹ Modern day Istanbul, Turkey

¹⁷⁰ Tafsîr Tabârî vol.1 p.548

of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ takes place. The narrations of Sahîh Muslim that detail the conquest of Constantinople are presented here,

عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه أن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قال : "هل سمعتم بمدينة جانب منها في البر وجانب في البحر ، قالوا : نعم يا رسول الله ، قال : لا تقوم الساعة حتى يغزوها سبعون ألفا من بنى اسحق ، فإذا جاءوها نزلوا ، فلم يقاتلوا بسلاح ولم يرموا بسهم ، قالوا لا إله إلا الله والله أكبر فيسقط أحد جانبها ، قال ثور : لا أعلم إلا قال : الذي في البحر ، ثم يقولون الثانية لا إله إلا الله والله أكبر فيسقط جانبها الآخر ، ثم يقولون الثالثة لا إله إلا الله والله أكبر فيرجع لهم ، فيدخلونها فيغمضوا ، فيبيثون يقتسمون المغانم إذ جاءهم الصريح فقال : إن الدجال قد خرج ، فيتركون كل شيء ويرجعون " . مسلم

٢٣٩٦ رقم ٢٩٢٠

Hadrat Abû Hurayrah ﷺ narrates that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "Have you heard of a city, one side of which is (joined) to the land and the other side is in the sea?" The sahâbah ﷺ replied, "Yes." Rasûlullâh ﷺ then said, "Qiyâmah will not happen until seventy thousand Muslims of Banû Ishâq or Banû Ismâ'îl war on it. When the Muslims arrive there and encamp, they will not fight with weapons, nor will they shoot any arrows. They will call out, 'There is none worthy of worship but Allâh and Allâh is the greatest' and one of the city walls will fall." Thaur - a narrator - says, "According to what I remember, it is the walls of the side in the sea." "The Muslims will then call out, 'There is none worthy of worship but Allâh and Allâh is the greatest' upon which the second city wall will fall. Upon the third call of 'There is no

deity but Allâh and Allâh is the greatest', the path for the Muslims will be clear and they will enter victorious. They will be distributing the booty when Shaytân will shout that Dajjâl has emerged. The Muslims will leave everything and return to their homes (for protection)."¹⁷¹

Note: According to some scholars of Hadîth, 'seventy thousand from Banû Ishâq' in reality refers to Banû Ismâ'îl. All the copies of Sahîh Muslim, however, have the word Banû Ishâq.

Imâm Nawawi رحمه الله writes,

قال القاضي : كذا هو في جميع أصول صحيح مسلم "من بنى اسحق" قال : قال بعضهم : المعروف المحفوظ "من بنى اسماعيل" وهو الذي يدل عليه الحديث وسياقه لأنه إنما أراد العرب وهذه المدينة هي القدسية . نووي على هامش مسلم ٢٣٩٦

Qâdî says, "The like is narrated in all the copies of Sahîh Muslim, i.e. Banû Ishâq. However, the famous and relied upon implication is Banû Ismâ'îl because the meaning of the Hadîth points to this. This is also the demand of the context of the Hadîth because it implies Arabs. The 'city' mentioned in the Hadîth is Constantinople.

This interpretation could also be presented regarding using 'Banû Ishâq' to refer to 'Banû Ismâ'îl' that in accordance to the proverb, 'the uncle of a man is his father's twin', it is correct to link a person to his uncle.

If we take the literal meaning of the Hadîth, then Banû Ishâq would refer to those individuals who accepted Islâm and

¹⁷¹ Sahîh Muslim vol.2 p.396, Hadîth 2920

joined the army of Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ, as is learnt from the previous narrations.

We learn from the various narrations that verification of the rumours regarding the emergence of *Dajjāl* will be taken very seriously, to such an extent that Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ will appoint a special group for this task. Note the following Hadīth,

فَيَعْثُونَ عَشْرَ فُوَارِسَ طَبِيعَةً . قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ إِنِّي لَا أَعْرِفُ
أَسْمَائِهِمْ وَأَسْمَاءِ آبَائِهِمْ وَأَلْوَانِ خَبْوَهُمْ ، هُمْ خَيْرُ فُوَارِسٍ عَلَىٰ ظَهَرِ الْأَرْضِ
يَوْمَئِذٍ ، أَوْ (قَالَ) مِنْ خَيْرِ فُوَارِسٍ عَلَىٰ ظَهَرِ الْأَرْضِ يَوْمَئِذٍ . صَحِيحُ مُسْلِمٍ
رَقْمٌ ٢٣٩٢

Mahdī will send a brigade of ten horsemen to verify the news. Rasūlullāh ﷺ said, "I know their names, their fathers' names and the colour of their horses. They will be the best riders on earth at that time."¹⁷²

They will come to know that the news was false. However, when Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ will reach Shām with his army, then *Dajjāl* would have emerged. Consequently, a Hadīth states,

فَإِذَا جَاءُوا الشَّامَ خَرَجَ . صَحِيحُ مُسْلِمٍ رَقْمٌ ٢٣٩٢

When they reach Shām, he would have emerged.¹⁷³

Note: In the course of all these conquests, Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ will go to the Vatican. The great treasures that the Ceaser of Rome seized when conquering *Bayt al Muqaddas* are kept here. In his time, the Ceaser of Rome took and transported the treasure using one hundred and seventy thousand wagons.

¹⁷² *Sahīh Muslim* vol.2 p.392, Hadīth 2899

¹⁷³ *Ibid*

Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ will take the treasure to *Bayt al Muqaddas* loading it upon one hundred and seventy thousand ships. It is at this place where Allāh ﷺ will gather the entire creation, from the first to the last.¹⁷⁴

THE DESCENT OF HADRAT 'ISĀ ﷺ AND THE DEMISE OF HADRAT MAHDĪ ﷺ

THE DESCENT OF HADRAT 'ISĀ ﷺ THE DEMISE OF HADRAT MAHDĪ ﷺ AND THE GENERAL CONDITION OF THAT ERA

From amongst the signs of *Qiyāmah*, the descent of Hadrat 'Isā ﷺ deserves great importance. This subject is so vast and important that where the scholars of Hadīth have recorded separate chapters on this subject, other people of knowledge have written on it as well.

It is appropriate to mention a few important incidents in sequence very consisely that will happen upon the descent of Hadrat 'Isā ﷺ. This is so that a clear picture of the works and status of Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ during the era of Hadrat 'Isā ﷺ in the light of reliable narrations and historical reports can be before us.

Dajjāl will first emerge between 'Irāq and Syria. However, his emergence will not be famous among people at that time. He will then show himself in Yahūdiyya, Isfahān. Here, his fame will spread. He will create *fitnah* in all four directions.

¹⁷⁴ For details, see *At Tadhkira lil Qurṭubi* p.653, *Tafsīr e Qurṭubī* vol.10 p.222

There are various places for the emergence of *Dajjāl* mentioned in the *Aḥādīth*. A central valley of Shām and 'Irāq, Khurāsān, Hauz wa Kirmān and Isfahān are mentioned.

A narration of *Sahīh Muslim* mentions a valley of 'Irāq and Shām,

عن نواس بن سمعان رضي الله عنه مرفوعاً أنه (الدجال) خارج خلة بين

الشام والعراق . صحيح مسلم ٢٤٠١ رقم ٢٩٣٧

It is narrated from Hadrat Nawwās bin Samān in a *marfū'* narration that *Dajjāl* will emerge from a central valley of 'Irāq and Shām.

Khurāsān is mentioned in a narration of *Hadrat Abū Bakr Siddīq*, recorded in *Al Fath ar Rabbānī*,

عن أبي بكر رضي الله عنه قال : حدثنا رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم أن الدجال يخرج من أرض بالشرق يقال لها خراسان . الفتح الرباني ٢٤٧٣

Hadrat Abū Bakr Siddīq narrates that *Rasūlullāh ﷺ* said that *Dajjāl* will emerge from a land in the East called Khurāsān.

A narration of *Hadrat Anas bin Mālik* in *Al Fath ar Rabbānī* mentions Isfahān,

عن أنس بن مالك رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : يخرج الدجال من يهودية أصبهان . الفتح الرباني ٢٤٧٣

Hadrat Anas bin Mālik narrates that *Rasūlullāh ﷺ* said, "Dajjāl will emerge from Yahūdiyyah, Isfahān."

We find mention of Hauz wa Kirmān in *Al Fath ar Rabbānī* narrated by *Hadrat Abū Hurayrah*,

عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه قال : سمعت رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم

يخرج الدجال حوزوكرمان . الفتح الرباني ٢٤٧٣

Hadrat Abū Hurayrah narrates that he heard *Rasūlullāh ﷺ* saying, "Dajjāl will emerge in Hauz wa Kirmān."

The first three of the above quoted narrations are authentic. However, a narrator of the fourth – Muhammad bin Ishaq is a *mudallis*¹⁷⁵. This is a cause for *duf*¹⁷⁶ in it.

Reconciliation of the different places can be done in this way that the emergence of *Dajjāl* will be at first from a central valley of 'Irāq and Shām. At that time, he will not be famous because a large group of his helpers will be waiting for him in Yahūdiyyah. He will then proceed to Yahūdiyyah in Isfahān, a city of Khurāsān. Together with his helpers, he will travel the entire world. In order to attain his objectives, he will settle at Hauz wa Kirmān. From the wording of the following *Hadīth*, we come to know that Hauz wa Kirmān will be the place where *Dajjāl* will settle,

لنزلن الدجال حوزوكرمان

He will settle at Hauz wa Kirmān

This emergence and evil will become famous when he comes out this time.

¹⁷⁵ A *Mudallis* is a narrator that narrates from a person living in the same time as him in such a way that people think that he has met and heard the one he narrates from, but he did not meet or hear from that person. [Irshād Usūl ul Hadīth p.92] – [T]

¹⁷⁶ Weakness – [T]

Now *Dajjâl* will make a whirlwind travel of the earth. He will live on earth for forty days. One day will be like a year, the second day will be like a month and the third day will be like a week. The rest of the days will be normal.

Most of the followers of *Dajjâl* will be Jews. Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ will begin preparations for battle when he reaches Damascus. However, conditions will be in favour of *Dajjâl* because he will have great inherent strength. Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ and those who want him will stay in Damascus and will be engaged in preparation for battle. They will generally perform their *salâh* in the Jâmi' Umawi.

In this era of *fitnah*, the Muslims will gather in Jordan and *Bayt al Muqaddas*. At first, the Muslims will be in *Ufayq*, a valley of Jordan. The following is mentioned in *Musannaf Ibn Abi Shaybah*,

فينحاز (المسلمون) إلى عقبة أفيق . مصنف ابن أبي شيبة ١٥١٣٧

The Muslims will withdraw to the valley of *Ufayq*.¹⁷⁷

We come to know from certain narrations that all those who believe in Allâh ﷺ and the Day of *Qiyâmah* will be located in that valley of Jordan.

وكل واحد يؤمن بالله واليوم الآخر يبطن الأردن . كنز العمال ١٤/٣١٤ رقم

٣٨٧٩١ مستدرك حاكم ٤/٥٣٧ رقم ٨٥٠٧

All those who believe in Allâh and the Day of *Qiyâmah* will be in the valley of Jordan.¹⁷⁸

¹⁷⁷ *Musannaf Ibn Abi Shaybah* vol.15 p.137

¹⁷⁸ *Kanz ul 'Ummâl* vol.14 p.315, Hadîth 38791, *Mustadrak Hâkim* vol.4 p.537, Hadîth 8507

The Muslims will finally gather at a mountain in Jerusalem, *Jabal ad Dukkhân*.

On the other side, *Dajjâl* will cause disorder in the entire world and come to Damascus. He will encamp on the side of the mountain and surround a group of Muslims.

فير الناس إلى جبل الدخان وهو بالشام ، فيأتيهم فيحاصرهم ، فيشد حصارهم ، ويجهدهم جهدا شديدا . التذكرة للقرطبي ٧٥٤ أحد ٤/٣١٨،٣١٧

The people will run to *Jabal ad Dukkhân* in Shâm. *Dajjâl* will come there and surround them. He will put them through great difficulty.¹⁷⁹

The Muslims will be put through great difficulty and poverty due to this siege of *Dajjâl*. Some people will burn the strings of their bows and eat it. When the siege of *Dajjâl* will become very long, then the leader of the Muslims (Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ), will say, "Why are you hesitant in fighting this rebel?" He will encourage them for victory or martyrdom. After the *Fajr salâh*, this decisive army will make a resolute intention (to go to battle – [T]).

This night will be very dark. The people will be involved in battle preparations. In this dark morning, Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ would have already stepped forward to lead the *Fajr salâh* while the Muslims are still preparing for *salâh*. The *iqâmah* would already be called out, when suddenly a sound will be heard saying, 'Your helper has arrived.'

The Muslims will be looking in every direction. Their sight will fall upon Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ who will be descending upon

¹⁷⁹ *At Tadhkira lil Qurtubî* p.754, *Ahmad* vol.3 pp.317-318

the white minaret of the Jâmi' Masjid of Damascus. He will be dressed in two yellow sheets with his hands on the shoulders of two angels. Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ will request for a ladder and descend from the minaret.

فَيَسِّنَا هُوَ كَذَلِكَ إِذْ بَعَثَ اللَّهُ مُسَيْحَ بْنَ مَرْيَمَ ، فَنَزَلَ عِنْدَ الْمَنَارَةِ الْبَيْضَاءِ شَرْقِيَّةِ
دَمْشِقَ بَيْنَ مَهْرُودَتَيْنَ وَاضْعَاعًا كَفِيهِ عَلَى أَجْنَحَةِ مَلَكَيْنَ . التَّذْكِرَةُ لِلقرطَبِيِّ ٧٠٢

The Muslims will be in this condition when suddenly, Allâh will send Al Masîh bin Maryam ﷺ upon the eastern white minaret of Damascus. He will have his hands placed on the shoulders of two angels.¹⁸⁰

The group of Muslims upon whom Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ will descend will be the most pious group of men and women on earth at that time.¹⁸¹

عَنْ أَبِي هَرِيرَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ : يَنْزَلُ
عِيسَى بْنُ مَرْيَمَ عَلَى ثَيَانِ مَائَةِ رَجُلٍ وَأَرْبَعِ مَائَةِ امْرَأَةٍ خَيْرٌ مِنْ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ
يَوْمَئِذٍ وَكُلُّ صَاحِبٍ مِنْ مُضِيِّ . كِتَابُ التَّذْكِرَةِ ٧٦٢ كِتَابُ الْعَمَالِ رَقْمٌ ٣٨٨٦٣

Hadrat Abû Hurayrah ﷺ narrates that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, " 'Isâ bin Maryam will descend among eight hundred men and four hundred women. They will be the best of those on earth at that time and they will be of a status similar to the pious people of before."¹⁸²

Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ will call Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ in order to lead the *salâh* and he will leave the front place and move backwards.

¹⁸⁰ At *Tadhkira lil Qurûbî* p.702

¹⁸¹ According to one narration, the men will number eight hundred and the women four hundred.

¹⁸² *Kitâb ut Tadhkira* p.762, *Kanz ul 'Ummâl*, Hadîth 38863

Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ will place his hand on the back of Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ and say, "You should lead the *salâh* because the *iqâmah* was called out for you." He ﷺ will refuse the position of *imâmah* and will say, "It is an honour for this *ummah* that some are leaders over the others."

عَنْ أَبِي أَمَامَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ - مَرْفُوعًا - فَرَجَعَ ذَلِكَ الْإِمَامُ يَنْكُضُ يَمْشِيَ
الْقَهْقَرِيَّ لِيَتَقَدَّمَ عِيسَى يَصْلِي بِالنَّاسِ ، فَيَضْعُ عِيسَى يَدَهُ بَيْنَ كَفَيْهِ ثُمَّ يَقُولُ لَهُ
: تَقْدُمْ فَصَلِّ فَإِنَّهَا لَكَ أَقْيَمْتَ . ابْنُ مَاجَةَ رَقْمٌ ٤٧٧

In a *marfû'* (see footnote 53) narration, Hadrat Abû Umâmah ﷺ relates, "This *Imâm* will turn and walk backwards so that 'Isâ can come forward and lead the people in *salâh*. 'Isâ will place his hand between his (Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ's) shoulders and then say, "Go forward and perform the *salâh* for the *iqâmah* was called out for you."¹⁸³

The *salâh* of this time will be lead by Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ and Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ will perform *salâh* behind him.

At this point, it should be remembered that the opposite has been narrated with regards to *imâmah* from Hadrat Abû Hurayrah ﷺ,

عَنْ أَبِي هَرِيرَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ : سَمِعْتُ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ
يَقُولُ : يَنْزَلُ عِيسَى عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ فَيَؤْمِهُمْ . سَعَايَةً عَنْ ابْنِ حِبْرَانَ ٢٨٨٤

Hadrat Abû Hurayrah ﷺ narrates, "I heard Rasûlullâh ﷺ saying, "'Isâ ﷺ will descend (and will) then lead them (in *salâh*)."¹⁸⁴

¹⁸³ *Sunan Ibn Mâjah*, Hadîth 4077

¹⁸⁴ *Sî'âyah* vol.2 p.184 from *Ibn Hibbân*

Similarly,

فینزل عیسیٰ علیہ السلام فَأُمُّهُمْ . صحیح مسلم ۲۳۹۲ رقم ۲۸۹۷

‘Isâ ﷺ will descend (and will) then lead them (in *salâh*).¹⁸⁵

‘Allâmah Kashmîrî رحمۃ اللہ علیہ writes in clarifying the apparent contradiction,

‘Hadrat ‘Isâ ﷺ will perform the first *salâh* behind Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ, because the *iqâmah* would have been called out for him.’¹⁸⁶

The following explanation is mentioned in *Āridatul Ahwadhi*,

قد روی أنه يصلی وراء امام المسلمين خصوصاً للدين محمد صلی الله علیه وسلم وشروعته واتباعها واسخاناً لأعين النصارى واقامة الحجۃ عليهم . عارضة الأحوذی ۹۷۸

It is narrated that he will perform *salâh* behind the leader of the Muslims, humbling himself before the *dîn* of Muhammâd ﷺ, and becoming a follower of it. One of the reasons for this is that the Christians will themselves witness this and it will stand as proof against them.¹⁸⁷

Hâfiż Ibn Hajar ‘Asqalâni رحمۃ اللہ علیہ writes,

وَفِي صَلَاةِ خَلْفِ رَجُلٍ مِّنْ هَذِهِ الْأُمَّةِ مَعَ كُونِهِ فِي أَخْرِ الزَّمَانِ وَقَرْبِ قِيَامِ السَّاعَةِ دَلَالَةً لِلصَّحِيحِ مِنَ الْأَقْوَالِ ، أَنَّ الْأَرْضَ لَا تَخْلُو عَنْ قَائِمِ اللَّهِ بِحَجَّةِ .

فتح الباري ۷۱۱

¹⁸⁵ *Sahîh Muslim* vol.2 p.392, *Hadîth* 2897

¹⁸⁶ *Fayd al Bârî* vol.4 pp.46-47

¹⁸⁷ vol.9 p.78

In the performance of *salâh* behind a person from this *ummah* is a clear proof that this world will never be free of a person who will establish the commands of Allâh, although this incident is one of the final eras close to *Qiyâmah*.¹⁸⁸

After this first *salâh*, Hadrat ‘Isâ ﷺ will become the *imâm* and Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ will follow him. This is proven from a narration of Hadrat Ka'b ﷺ,

عَنْ كَعْبٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ مَرْفُوعًا ... قَالَ : فَيَنْظَرُونَ فَإِذَا بِعِيسَىٰ بْنَ مَرْيَمَ ، قَالَ : وَتَقَامُ الصَّلَاةُ فَيَرْجِعُ أَمَّا الْمُسْلِمِينَ الْمَهْدِيُّ ، فَيَقُولُ عِيسَىٰ : تَقْدِيمُ فَلَكَ أَقْيَمَتِ الصَّلَاةُ ، فَيَصْلِي بِهِمْ ذَلِكَ الرَّجُلُ تِلْكَ الصَّلَاةُ ، قَالَ : ثُمَّ يَكُونُ عِيسَىٰ أَمَّا بَعْدَهُ . الْفَتْنَ ۳۹۳ رَقْمُ ۱۳۳۶

Hadrat Ka'b ﷺ narrates – in a *marfû‘* (see footnote 53) narration

“The people will be looking, suddenly ‘Isâ bin Maryam will be descending. At that time, the *salâh* will be commencing and the leader of the Muslims, Mahdî, will be walking backwards. ‘Isâ will say, “Go forward, the *iqâmah* was called out for you.” This person (Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ) will lead them in this *salâh*. He said, “‘Isâ will then be the *imâm*.”¹⁸⁹

Mulla ‘Alî al Qârî رحمۃ اللہ علیہ writes in *Sharh Fiqh al Akbar*,
الأَصْحَاحُ أَنَّ عِيسَىٰ يَصْلِي بِالنَّاسِ ، وَيَقْتَدِي بِهِ الْمَهْدِيُّ . شَرْحُ فَقْهِ الْأَكْبَرِ ۱۳۷

The correct view is that (after the first *salâh*) ‘Isâ will lead the people in *salâh* and Mahdî will follow him.¹⁹⁰

¹⁸⁸ *Fath al Bârî* vol.6 p.611

¹⁸⁹ *Al Fitâن* p.393, *Hadîth* 1336

¹⁹⁰ p.137

After the *Fajr salâh*, there will be a lengthy discussion and consultation. After this, the war against *Dajjâl* and his followers will begin.

When Dajjāl will see Hadrat 'Isā ﷺ, he will be shocked and will stand up and run. There will be approximately seventy thousand Jews with him. Dajjāl will run from Damascus to Isra'il. He will pass the valley of Ufayq and reach the city of Ludd. However, the army of Hadrat 'Isā ﷺ and Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ will follow them. When Dajjāl will try to enter Ludd, then Hadrat 'Isā ﷺ will come close to him. The condition of Dajjāl will be such that even if Hadrat 'Isā ﷺ does not do anything, then too, Dajjāl will dissolve like salt and will be destroyed. Hadrat 'Isā ﷺ will kill him with his weapons. The followers of Dajjāl will also be killed.

After (finishing off - [T]) Dajjâl, Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ and Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ will turn their attention to conquering the rest of the world and will establish Islâm in the entire world. Allâh ﷺ will make Islâm dominant in every way. The prophesy of Rasûlullâh ﷺ mentioned in the following Hadith will be realized,

عن المقداد رضي الله عنه أنه سمع رسول الله صل الله عليه وسلم يقول : لا يقى على ظهر الأرض بيت مدر ولا وبر إلا أدخله الله كلمة الإسلام بعز عزيز وذل ذليل ، اما يعزهم الله فيجعلهم من أهله أو يذلهم فيديرون لها . قلت

Hadrat Miqdâd ﷺ narrates that he heard Rasûlullâh ﷺ saying, "No home made of baked bricks or unbaked bricks will remain on earth except that Allâh will place the word of Islâm in it. Some will be honoured and some will be disgraced. Those whom Allâh wishes to honour, He will bless them with the divine ability to become Muslims

on their own, and those whom Allâh wishes to disgrace, they will finally choose Islâm." I said, "Then the entire dîn will be for Allâh."¹⁹¹

The summary of this discussion is that Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ will war against the Christians in different battles for seven years. He will fight against *Dajjâl* in the eighth year, and he will pass the ninth year together with Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ. At that time, Islâm will be flourishing in the entire world. Wealth will also be in great abundance. After the killing of *Dajjâl*, Hadrat Mahdî ﷺ will travel the earth together with Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ. They will also give glad-tidings of reward and will console those who were given great difficulty by *Dajjal*. They will also fill the hearts of the people by means of beneficence.

DEMISE OF HADRAT MAHDI

The most authoritative information with regards to the demise of Hadrat Mahdi is that he will not be martyred in any battle. In the ninth year after his emergence (according to one report), he will pass away at the age of forty-nine. No information could be found concerning the city in which he will pass away and where he will be buried. Only this much is mentioned in the following narration of *Sunan Abû Dâwûd*,

ثم يتوفى ويصلى عليه المسلمون . سنن أبو داود ٢/٥٨٩ رقم ٤٢٨٦

He will pass away and the Muslims will perform the *janâzah salah* over him.¹⁹²

Al 'Aun Al Ma'bûd, commentary of *Sunan Abû Dâwûd*, states the following about the narrators of the above narration,

¹⁹¹ Ahmad vol.39 p.236, Hadith 23814

¹⁹² Sunan Abû Dawûd vol.2 p.589, Hadith 4286

ورجاله رجال الصحيحين لا مطعن فيهم ولا مغفر. ١١٢٥٥

This narration is narrated by narrators of the *Sahihayn* and there is no scope for *jarh*¹⁹³ and *ta' n*¹⁹⁴ on them.¹⁹⁵

'Allâmah Anwar Shâh Kashmîrî رحمۃ اللہ علیہ says in *Al 'Arf ush Shadhi*,

ويبعث المهدی لإصلاح المسلمين ، فبعد نزول عیسیٰ علیه السلام يرتحل المهدی من الدنيا إلى العقبی . العرف الشذی علی هامش جامع الترمذی

٢/٤٧ حسب النسخة الهندية

Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ will be sent for the reformation of the Muslims. After the descent of Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ, he (Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ) will move from this world to the hereafter.¹⁹⁶

It seems most apparent that the *janâzah salâh* of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ will be performed by Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ. It is accepted that Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ will live for nine years after his emergence. He will be forty years of age at the time of his emergence. This is written in different books but we could not find an authentic narration proving this. Some *da'if* (see footnote 83) narrations do specify these numbers of years.

¹⁹³ *Jarh* means 'wound'. In the study of Hadith it refers to the scrutiny of a narration and the negative grading or statement made about it. – [T]

¹⁹⁴ *Ta' n* means 'to throw a spear, to find fault.' In Hadith terminology, it refers to the discussion regarding the reliability of a narrator, his memory and his religious practice. [Irshâd Usûl ul Hadith p.98] – [T]

¹⁹⁵ vol.11 p.255

¹⁹⁶ vol.2 p.47

أخرج أبو نعيم ، عن أبي أمامة رضي الله عنه مرفوعا ... فقال له رجل : يا رسول الله من امام الناس يومئذ؟ قال صلى الله عليه وسلم : المهدى من ولدي ابن أربعين سنة الخ . الحاوي ٢/٦

Abû Nu'aym رحمۃ اللہ علیہ has transmitted the following *marfû'* (see footnote 53) narration of Hadrat Abû Umâmah رضي الله عنه . A person said, "O Messenger of Allâh, who will be the leader of the Muslims on that day?" Rasûlullâh ﷺ replied, "Mahdi, who is from my progeny. He will be forty years of age at that time."¹⁹⁷

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF HADRAT 'ISÂ ﷺ

After the demise of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ, Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ will handle all the government affairs. Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ will live in the world for forty years. He will marry and have children. The incident of *Yajûj* and *Mâjûj* will occur in his time. He will finally appoint a successor named *Muq'ad* before leaving this world, i.e. after this person is born, Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ will pass away. He will be buried near Rasûlullâh ﷺ in the *raudah*. The final signs of *Qiyâmah* will then occur.

قال كعب الأحبار : ان عیسیٰ علیه السلام يمکث في الأرض أربعين سنة ، وقال : وان عیسیٰ علیه السلام يتزوج بامرأة من آل فلان ، ويرزق منها ولدين فيسمى أحدهما محمدًا والآخر موسى ، ويكون الناس معه على خير وفي خير زمان ، وذلك أربعين سنة ، ثم يقبض الله روح عیسیٰ ويدوق الموت

¹⁹⁷ Al Hâwi vol.2 p.66

ويُدفن إلى جانب النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم في الحجرة ، ويُمْوت خيار الأمة
ويُبْقى شرارها في قلة من المؤمنين . التذكرة للقرطبي ٧٦٣

Hadrat Ka'b Ahbâr رضي الله عنه says that Hadrat 'Isâ عليه السلام will live in the world for forty years. He will marry a woman from one of the tribes. This woman will bear him two sons whose names will be Muhammad and Mûsâ. The people will be together with him in goodness and in the good era. This will be a period of forty years. Allâh عز وجل will then take the soul of Hadrat 'Isâ عليه السلام. In this way, death will also come upon Hadrat 'Isâ عليه السلام. He will be buried next to Rasûlullâh ﷺ in the blessed room. The pious of the *ummah* will pass away and the evil people will remain among very few Muslims.¹⁹⁸

A verse of the Taurâh about this has been narrated from Hadrat 'Abdullâh bin Salâm رضي الله عنه،

عن يوسف بن عبد الله بن سلام عن أبيه قال : نجد في التوراة أن عيسى بن مريم يُدفن مع محمد صلى الله عليه وسلم . الفتن ٣٩٥ رقم ١٣٣٨

It is narrated from Yûsuf bin 'Abdullâh bin Salâm from his father, "We found in the Taurâh that 'Isâ bin Maryam will be buried with (next to) Rasûlullâh ﷺ."¹⁹⁹

The following narration of *Musnad Ahmad* and *Muṣannaf Ibn Abî Shaybah* proves that Hadrat 'Isâ عليه السلام will live in the world for forty years،

¹⁹⁸ At *Tadhkira lil Qurṭubî* p.763

¹⁹⁹ *Al Fitâ* p.359, *Hadith* 1338

عن عائشة رضي الله عنها قالت : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : يخرج الدجال وينزل عيسى فيقتله ثم يمكث عيسى في الأرض أربعين عاماً اماماً عادلاً وحكماً قسطاً . *Musnad Ahmad* رقم ٢٤٤٦٧ مصنف ابن أبي شيبة ١٩٣٢٠ رقم ١٥١٣٤

Hadrat A'isha radiyallâhu anha narrates that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "Dajjâl will emerge and 'Isâ will descend. He ('Isâ) will kill him and will then live in the earth for forty years as a just ruler and an impartial judge."²⁰⁰

عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : ينزل عيسى بن مريم ويقتل الدجال ويمكث أربعين عاماً يعمل فيهم بكتاب الله تعالى وستي ويُمْوت ويُتَخَلَّفُونَ بأمر عيسى رجلاً من بنى تميم يقال له المقدع ، لم يأت على الناس ثلث سنين حتى يرفع القرآن من صدور الرجال ومصاحفهم . *الحاوي* ٢/٨٢

Hadrat Abû Hurayrah رضي الله عنه narrates from Rasûlullâh ﷺ, "'Isâ bin Maryam will descend and he will kill Dajjâl and he will live in the earth for forty years. He will implement the book of Allâh and my Sunnah. He will pass away and will leave a person from Banû Tamîm named Muqâd as his successor. In less than three years, the Qur'an will be lifted from the hearts of people and from the *Masâhif*."²⁰¹

²⁰⁰ *Musnad Ahmad*, *Hadith* 24467, *Muṣannaf Ibn Abî Shaybah* vol.15 p.134, *Hadith* 19320

²⁰¹ *Al Hâwi* vol.2 p.82

Note: Study our book, 'Nuzûl e Ísâ' for the complete biography of Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ, his descent and the killing of *Dajjâl*.

Finally, when Allâh ﷺ will establish *Qiyâmah*, he will create a pleasing breeze that will (be a cause – [T]) for taking the souls of all the believers. No believer will remain on earth. *Qiyâmah* will then happen on the worst of people and the trumpet will be blown.

عن عبد الله بن عمرو بن العاص رضي الله عنه ... ثم يبعث الله رحما كريحا
المسك مسها مس الحرير ، فلا ترك نفسا في قلبه مثقال حبة من الإيمان إلا
قبضته ، ثم يبقى شرار الناس ، عليهم تقوم الساعة . صحيح مسلم رقم
١٩٢٤

It is narrated from Hadrat 'Abdullâh bin 'Amr bin al 'Âs ﷺ ... "then Allâh will send a breeze like a breeze of musk. Its touch will be like the touch of silk. It will not leave anybody in whose heart there is *îmân* equal to a seed except that it will take his (soul – [T]). The worst of people will remain. Upon them *Qiyâmah* will happen."²⁰²

²⁰² Sahîh Muslim, Hadîth 1924

THE MOST IMPORTANT TASKS OF HADRAT MAHDI ﷺ

1. He will fill the earth with justice and equity just as it was filled with oppression and tyranny. There will be no oppression in his actions and rule.
2. His justice and equity will be general, encompassing everyone, (i.e. without favouritism, nepotism etc. – [T])
3. He will establish a *khilâfah* upon the radiant ways of the *khilâfah ar râshida*.
4. Islâm will gain dominance in the earth in his time and Islâm will be established.
5. He will purify the hearts of the *ummah*.
6. He will make *ta'lim* (teaching of *dîn*) widespread.

7. He will purify people from *shirk*²⁰³ and *bid 'ât*²⁰⁴

Hadrat Gangohî رحمه الله says,

فيزكيهم (أى المهدى) ويعلمهم ويظهرهم عن دنس البدعات ويكملهم

الكوكب الدرى ٢٥٧

²⁰³ Polytheism. – [T]

²⁰⁴ Innovations in *dîn*. – [T]

He (Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ) will purify them, teach them and cleanse them from the filth of innovations and he will make them complete.²⁰⁵

8. *Dajjāl* will emerge in the seventh year after his (Hadrat Mahdi 's ﷺ - [T]) emergence and he will fight *Dajjāl* alongside Hadrat Isā ﷺ.

9. Wealth in his time will be so much like the heaps of grain in a mill.

والمال كداس . الفتنة رقم ٢٥٣ ٩٩٢

And wealth will be in heaps.²⁰⁶

10. There will be livestock in abundance during his time.

11. Abundant beneficial rain will fall.

12. There will be many crops harvested.

عن أبي سعيد الخدري رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : "يخرج في آخر أمتي المهدى ، يسقيه الله الغيث ، وتخرج الأرض نباتا ، ويعطي المال صاححا ، وتكثر الماشية ، وتعظم الامة - ويعيش سبعا أو ثانية يعني حيجا . مستدرك للحاكم رقم ٤٦٠١ ٨٦٧٣ رقم

Hadrat Abū Sa'īd al Khudrī ﷺ says, Rasūlullāh ﷺ said, "The Mahdi will emerge in the final era of my *ummah*. Allāh will send abundant

²⁰⁵ Al Kaukab Ad Durrī vol.2 p.57

²⁰⁶ Al Fitān p.253, Hadith 992

*rain; the earth will bring forth its crops. He will distribute wealth properly. There will be many cattle and the *ummah* will have great honour at that time. He will live for seven or eight years.*²⁰⁷

13. The conditions will be so good and prosperous that those who are living will wish that those who passed away were still alive and could see these prosperous conditions.

لادع السماء من قطرها شيئاً الا صبته مدرارا ، ولا تدع الأرض من ماءها شيئاً الا أخرجه ، حتى تمنى الأحياء الأموات . مصنف عبد الرزاق

١١٣٧٢ رقم ٢٠٧٧٠

The sky will not leave any of its drops; the earth will not leave any of its water except that it will bring it forth. This will be to such a degree that the living will desire that the dead be alive.²⁰⁸

14. He ﷺ will fill the hearts of people with contentment due to his generosity.

ويملاً قلوب امة محمد غنى . منتخب كنز العمال ٦٧٩

He will fill the hearts of the *ummah* of Muhammad ﷺ with contentment.²⁰⁹

15. He will distribute wealth liberally.

²⁰⁷ Mustadrak Hākim vol.4 p.601, Hadith 8673

²⁰⁸ Muṣannaf 'Abdur Razzāq vol.11 p.372, Hadith 20770

²⁰⁹ Muntakhab Kanz al 'Ummāl vol.6 p.29

16. He will take out the treasure that is in front of the door of the *Ka bah* and distribute it among the Muslims. The name of this treasure is *Ritâj al Ka bah*.

Note: There is a narration about *Ritâj al Ka bah* recorded in *Muntakhab Kanz ul Ummâl*. Muftî Nizâm ud Dîn Shâmzî رحمه اللہ says that it is *sahîh*.²¹⁰

حدثنا ابن وهب ، عن إسحاق بن يحيى بن طلحة التميمي ، عن طاؤس قال :
وعبد عمر بن الخطاب رضي الله عنه البيت ثم قال : والله ما أراني أدع خزائن
البيت وما فيه من السلاح والمال أم أقسمه في سبيل الله ؟ فقال له علي بن أبي
طالب رضي الله عنه : امض يا أمير المؤمنين ! فلست بصاحب ، إنما صاحبه منا
شاب من قريش يقسمه في سبيل الله في آخر الزمان . الفتنة ٢٨٤ رقم ١٠٦٢

It is narrated from Tâ'ûs, رحمه اللہ, he says that 'Umar bin al Khattâb رضي الله عنه bid farewell to the *Ka bah*. He then said, "By Allâh, I do not know whether I should leave the treasures of the *Ka bah*, its weapons and wealth, or whether I should distribute it in the way of Allâh. Hadrat 'Ali رضي الله عنه said, "Leave it, for you are not responsible to do it. The person who will do it is a youngster from us – the *Quraysh*. He will distribute it in the way of Allâh during the final era."²¹¹

²¹⁰ 'Aqidah Zuhûr e Mahdi p.70, *Sahîh* is a narration whose narrators are just, remember completely, its chain is linked at every point and there is no cause for weakness in it. [Irshâd Usûl ul Hadîth p.60] – [T]

²¹¹ Al Fitâن p.284, Hadîth 1062

17. He will give wealth liberally without counting.²¹²

18. The Muslim *ummah* will attain a high status in honour.

19. The prosperous conditions of his time and his proverbial generosity is recorded in the following narration,

عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه ، قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : "أبشروا بالهدي رجل من قريش من عترتي ، يخرج في اختلاف من الناس وزلزال في ملأ الأرض قسطاً وعدلاً كما ملئت ظلماً وجوراً ويرضي ساكن الأرض ويقسم المال صاححاً بالسوية ويملاً قلوب أمة محمد غنى ويسعهم عدله حتى أنه يأمر منادياً ينادي من له حاجة إلى ، فما يأته أحد إلا رجل واحد ، يأته فيسئله فيقول : أت السادن حتى يعطيك ، فيأته فيقول : أنا رسول المهدى إليك لتعطيني مالاً ، فيقول : احث ، فيحشى ولا يستطيع أن يحمله ، فيلقى حتى يكون قدر ما يستطيع أن يحمله ، فيخرج به فينلزم فيقول : أنا كنت أجشع أمة محمد نفسها ، كلهم دعى إلى هذا المال فتركه غيري ، فيردد عليه ، فيقول : إنا لا نقبل شيئاً أعطيناها ، فيلبيث في ذلك ستة أو سبعاً أو ثانية أو تسع سنين ، ولا خير في الحياة بعده . منتخب كنز العمال ٦٢٩

Hadrat Abû Hurayrah رضي الله عنه narrates, Rasûlullâh صلى الله عليه وسلم said, "Rejoice with the glad-tidings of the *Mahdi*, a person of *Quraysh*, of my family. He will emerge at the time of difference of opinion and earthquakes. He

²¹² The wording in the original Urdu is proverbial. The literal translation is he will give wealth that fills both his hands, i.e. liberally. – [T]

will fill the earth with justice and equity just as it was filled with oppression and tyranny. All the inhabitants of the earth and heavens will be happy with him. He will distribute wealth correctly with justice. He will fill the hearts of the ummah of Muhammad with contentment and his equity will spread among them all. This will be to such a degree that he will tell his announcer to announce, "Does anyone have a need to place before me?" A single person will come to him. He ﷺ will say, "Go to the treasurer, he will give you." That person will go to the treasurer and say that Mahdī has sent me so that you may give me some wealth. The treasurer will tell him to take it himself. That person will take more than he can carry. He will then put back until it reaches an amount that he will be able to carry. He will leave and become ashamed saying, "I am the greediest person in the ummah of Muhammad ﷺ. Everyone was called to this wealth and they left it, besides me." He will want to return that wealth. The treasurer will say that we do not take back what has been given. Mahdī will then live for six, seven, eight, or nine years. After that, there will be no good in staying alive.²¹³

SOCIAL LIFE DURING THE ERA OF THE MAHDI

A great favour of Allâh ﷺ upon this *ummah* during the time of Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ will be that everyone will unanimously accept Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ to be his or her leader and guide. There will not be any difference of opinion. It will be an example of great love and unity.

²¹³ Muntakhab Kanz ul 'Ummâl vol.6 p.29

عن دينار بن دينار قال : يظهر المهدى وقد تفرق الفئ فيواسى بين الناس في ما وصل إليه لا يوثر أحدا ، ويعمل بالحق حتى يموت ثم تصير الدنيا بعده هرج . الفتنة رقم ٢٥٤ رقم ٩٩٥ .

It is narrated from Dînâr bin Dînâr who said, "Mahdî will emerge when the people will be in disarray. He will console the people. He will not give preference to some over others. He will deal correctly until his demise. Then corruption and trouble will erupt in the entire world.²¹⁴

IMPORTANT INCIDENTS

There are some very important incidents mentioned in the *Ahâdîth*. They will take place in the final era close to *Qiyâmah*. However, there is no clarity as to exactly when they will occur. All these incidents will occur at the time very close to the emergence of Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ. We come to this conclusion after pondering over the various narrations as well as the method in which they have been mentioned. (We understand this – [T]) also from studying the works of our pious predecessors about Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ. These incidents are recollected below:

(1) RESTRICTIONS UPON 'IRÂQ, EGYPT AND SYRIA FROM THE ROMANS AND NON-ARAB NATIONS

عن أبي نصرة قال : كنا عند جابر بن عبد الله فقال : يوشك أهل العراق أن لا يحيى إليهم قفيز ولا درهم ، قلنا من أين ذاك؟ قال من قبل العجم ، يمنعون

²¹⁴ Al Fitâh p.254, Hadîth 995

ذاك . ثم قال يوشك أهل الشام أن لا يجع إلهم دينار ولا مدي ، قلنا من أين
ذاك قال من قبل الروم ، ثم سكت هنية ، ثم قال : قال رسول الله صل الله
عليه وسلم : يكون في آخر أمتي خليفة يخشى المال حثيا ولا يعده عدا ، قال
قلت لأبي نصرة وأبي العلاء : أتريان أنه عمر بن عبد العزيز فقال : لا .

صحيح مسلم ٢٣٩٥ رقم ٢٩١٣

Hadrat Abū Nadrah رضي الله عنه says, "We were sitting by Jābir bin Abdullāh رضي الله عنه . He (Jābir رضي الله عنه) said, "Soon the condition of the people of Irāq will be such that not even a qafiz or a dirham will come to them." We said, "From whom (will these restrictions) come?" He said, "From the non-Arabs."

After a little while he said, "Soon the condition of the people of Shām will be such that not even a dīnār or a mudd will come to them." We said, "From whom (will these restrictions) be?" He said, "From the Romans."

He remained silent for a while and then said, "Rasūlullāh ﷺ said, "There will be a khalifah in the final era of my ummah who will distribute wealth liberally and he will not even count it." The narrator says, "I asked Abū Nadrah and Abul 'Alā', "Do you think it is 'Umar bin 'Abdul 'Azīz?" They said, "No."

'Allāmah Taqī 'Uthmānī dāmat barakātuhu writes in his *Takmila Fath al Mulhim*, quoting *Qurtubī*, that a group of 'ulemā' incline to the view that Hadrat Mahdī رضي الله عنه is referred to in this narration. The text is presented hereunder,*

وذهب جمع من العلماء إلى أن المراد منه خليفة الله المهدى الذى يخرج في آخر

الزمان . تكميله فتح المهم ٦٣٢٩

(2) THE SUDDEN INCURSION OF THE ROMANS INTO SYRIA

We learn from some books that the Christians will be ruling Syria. Their rule will stretch until Khaybar.

(3) THE FEW ARABS DURING THAT ERA – THEY WILL GATHER AT A PLACE CLOSE TO BAYT AL MUQADDAS

يا رسول الله : فأين العرب يومئذ؟ قال : هم يومئذ قليل بيت المقدس . ابن

ماجة ٣٠٨ رقم ٤٠٧٧

Someone asked, "O messenger of Allāh, where will the Arabs be at that time?" Rasūlullāh ﷺ replied, "They will be few in Bayt al Muqaddas."²¹⁵

(4) PEOPLE WILL LEAVE MADĪNAH DUE TO LACK OF DESIRE AND INCLINATION

People will leave Madīnah Munawwarah due to lack of inclination. They will hear that the gardens and crops in a certain place are flourishing, so they will leave, whereas Madīnah Munawwarah is better for them. Allāh ﷺ will let Madīnah Munawwarah be inhabited by better people that were there.

عن جابر بن عبد الله رضي الله عنه - مرفوعا - لا يخرج رجل من المدينة رغبة عنها إلا أبدها الله خير منه ، وليس من ناس برخص من أسعار وريف فيتبعونه ، والمدينة خير لهم لو كانوا يعلمون . مستدرك للحاكم ٤٥٠١ رقم

٨٤٠

²¹⁵ Sunan Ibn Mājah p.308, Hadith 4077

In a marfû 'narration of Hadrat Jâbir bin 'Abdullâh ﷺ it is stated that no one will leave Madinah except that Allâh will place others better than him, and those that hear of cheap prices and agricultural development will leave, whereas Madinah is better for them if they knew.²¹⁶

(5) THE APPEARANCE OF A MOUNTAIN OF GOLD

Imâm Muslim رحمه اللہ علیہ has recorded the following narration of Hadrat Ubayy bin Ka'b ﷺ,

عن أبي بن كعب رضي الله عنه قال : إني سمعت رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم يقول : "يوشك الفرات أن يحسر عن جبل من ذهب ، فإذا سمع به الناس ساروا إليه ، فيقول من عنده : لئن تركنا الناس يأخذون منه ليذهبن به كله – قال : فيقتتلون عليه فيقتل من كل مائة تسعه وتسعون ". صحيح مسلم

٢٨٩٥ رقم ٢/٣٩١

Hadrat Ubayy bin Ka'b ﷺ narrates, "I heard Rasûlullâh ﷺ saying, "Soon, a mountain of gold will appear from the Euphrates River. When people will hear of this, they will leave for there. The people who live there will say, "If we leave these people to take the gold, all will be taken." He ﷺ said, "They will fight over it. Ninety nine percent of the people will be killed (in this war – [T])."

A similar narration of Hadrat Thaubân ﷺ is recorded in *Sunan Ibn Mâjah*,

²¹⁶ Mustadrak Hâkim vol.4 p.501, Hadith 840

عن ثوبان رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : "يقتل عند كنزكم ثلاثة ، كلهم ابن خليفة ، ثم لا يصير إلى واحد منهم ، ثم تطلع الرایات السود من قبل المشرق – فيقتلونكم قتلا لم يقتله قوم ، ثم ذكر شيئا لا أحفظه . فقال : فإذا رأيتموه فباعوه ولو حبوا على الثلوج فإنه خليفة الله المهدى . سنن ابن ماجة ٣١٠

Hadrat Thaubân ﷺ narrates that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "Three people will fight over your treasure. All of them will be sons of khulafâ'. None of them will get the treasure. A black flag will then appear from the east. They will fight you so severly that no nation has fought you in such a way before." Hadrat Thaubân ﷺ says, "He ﷺ then said something that I do not remember." He ﷺ then said, "When you see him, then pledge allegiance to him immediately, even if you have to come crawling over ice. He is definitely the khalîfah of Allâh, the Mahdi."²¹⁷

Hâfiż Ibn Hajar 'Asqalânî رحمه اللہ علیہ says in *Fath al Bârî*, "If the treasure referred to in this Hadîth is the one that is mentioned in the narration of the mountain of gold, then it is proof that these incidents will occur at the time of the emergence of Mahdi."²¹⁸

²¹⁷ Sunan Ibn Mâjah p.310

²¹⁸ Fath al Bârî vol.13 p.81

(6) KILLING OF THE PURE SELF

The crux of a narration of *Muṣannaf Ibni Abī Shaybah* is that *Hadrat Mahdī* ﷺ will emerge after the killing of a pure self, i.e. a great pious person.²¹⁹

(7) UNITY OF THE MUSLIMS AND CHRISTIANS

This subject is discussed in the following narration of *Sunan Abū Dāwūd*,

عن الهدنة رضي الله عنه قال : سمعت رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم يقول : "ستصالحون الروم صلحًا آمنا ، فتغزوون أنتم وهم عدوا من ورائكم ، فتنتصرون وتغنمون وتسلمون ثم ترجون حتى تنزلوا بمرج ذي تلول ، فيرفع رجل من أهل النصرانية الصليب فيقول : غالب الصليب - فيغضب رجل من المسلمين ، فيدقه - فعند ذلك تغدر الروم وتجتمع للملحمة" . سنن أبو داؤد ٤٢٩٢ رقم ٥٩٢

It is narrated from Hadrat Hudnāh ﷺ, "I heard Rasūlullāh ﷺ saying, "The Muslims and Romans will share a peaceful treaty. They will jointly fight an enemy that is behind you. They will be helped, will gain booty and will return safely to a lush hill. A Christian will raise the cross and say, "The cross has overpowered." A Muslim will be angered at this and will break it. The Christians will break the treaty and will prepare for a great war."²²⁰

²¹⁹ *Muṣannaf Ibni Abī Shaybah* vol.15 p.199, *Hadīth* 19499

²²⁰ *Sunan Abū Dāwūd* vol.2 p.590, *Hadīth* 4292, this narration is also recorded in *Sahīh Muslim*, in brief.

(8) A BLOODY WAR DURING THE DAYS OF *HAJJ*

We learn from a narration that there will be a bloody war during the days of *Hajj* in the blessed land of Mina. It will be so severe that blood will be spilt on the *Jamārah al Aqābah*.

عن عمرو بن شعيب ، عن أبيه ، عن جده قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : في ذي القعدة تحاذي القبائل ، وعائدٌ ينهي الحاج فتكون ملحمة بمنى ، فيكثر فيه القتلى ، وتسفك فيها الدماء حتى تسيل دماءهم على عقبة الجمرة - الخ . الفتن ٢٦٧ رقم ٩٩٤

Hadrat Amr bin Shu'ayb narrates from his father who narrates from his grandfather ﷺ *that Rasūlullāh ﷺ said, "During Dhūl Qa'dah, the tribes will be split into groups. There will be plundering amongst the *Hujjāj* that year and there will be a war in Mina. There will be many dead and blood will be spilt to such a degree that their blood will flow on the *Jamārah al Aqābah*."*²²¹

(9) ANOTHER WAR

Study the following narration of *Mustadrak Hākim* regarding another war,

أخبرني أَحْمَدُ بْنُ مُحَمَّدٍ بْنُ سَلْمَةَ الْعَنْزِيِّ ، حَدَّثَنَا عَمَّānُ بْنُ سَعِيدِ الدَّارَمِيِّ ، حَدَّثَنَا سَعِيدُ بْنُ أَبِي مَرِيمٍ ، أَبْنَانَا نَافعُ بْنُ يَزِيدٍ ، حَدَّثَنِي عِيَاشُ بْنُ عَبَّاسٍ أَنَّ الْحَارِثَ بْنَ يَزِيدَ حَدَّثَهُ أَنَّهُ سَمِعَ عَبْدَ اللَّهِ بْنَ زَرِيرَ الْغَافِقِيَّ يَقُولُ سَمِعْتُ عَلَى بْنِ أَبِي طَالِبٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ يَقُولُ : سَتَكُونُ فَتْنَةٌ يَحْصُلُ النَّاسُ مِنْهَا كَمَا يَحْصُلُ

²²¹ *Al Fitān* p.267, *Hadīth* 994

الذهب في المعدن – فلا تسبوا أهل الشام ، وسبوا ظلمتهم – فإن فيهم الأبدال ، وسيرسل الله إليهم سبيلا من السماء فيغرقهم حتى لو قاتلهم الشعالي غلبتهم – ثم يبعث الله عند ذلك رجلا من عترة الرسول صلى الله عليه وسلم في اثنى عشر ألفا إن قلوا ، وخمسة عشر ألفا إن كثروا – أمارتهم أو علامتهم "أمت أمت" على ثلث رايات يقاتلهم أهل سبع رايات ، ليس من صاحب رأية إلا وهو يطمع بالملك ، فيقتلون ويهزموه ثم يظهر الهاشمي فيرد الله إلى الناس الفتهم ونعمتهم – فيكونون على ذلك حتى يخرج الدجال

٨٦٥٨ – هذا حديث صحيح الإسناد ولم يخرجاه . مستدرك ٤/٥٩٦ رقم

Hadrat Ali said, "Soon there will be fitnah. In this (fitnah - [T]), people will be selected like how gold is from a mine. Do not speak ill of the people of Shām, speak ill of their oppressors, for among them (the people of Shām - [T]) are abdāl. Allāh will send rains upon the people of Shām, (such rains- [T]) that will drown them. They will become so weak due to this that if a fox has to fight with them, the fox will overpower them.

Allāh will send a Hāshimī, i.e. Mahdī, who is from the progeny of Rasūlullāh ﷺ. He will have an army of twelve thousand at the least and fifteen thousand at the most. Their sign will be the call 'amit, amit'. Their army will be under three flags. The army facing them will be under seven flags, every soldier of their's will desire leadership. They will fight and will be defeated. Allāh will then give the Hāshimī, i.e. Mahdī, victory. Allāh will then return their lost

blessings unto them. The people will then live in good conditions until the emergence of Dajjāl.²²²

GENERALLY UNDERSTOOD SIGNS OF THE EMERGENCE OF THE MAHDI

There are verifiable and unverifiable signs of Hadrat Mahdī mentioned in the source books. Some of them are so easily understood that even a simpleton will be able to point out Hadrat Mahdī upon witnessing them. We explain only two signs here,

(1) THE RISING OF A SIGN TOGETHER WITH THE SUN
 أخبرنا عبد الرزاق ، عن معمر ، عن ابن طاوس ، عن علي بن عبد الله بن عباس قال : لا يخرج المهدى حتى تطلع مع الشمس آية . مصنف عبد الرزاق
 ٢٠٧٧٥ رقم ١١٣٧٣

It is narrated from 'Ali bin 'Abdullāh bin 'Abbās رض, "Mahdī will not emerge until a sign rises together with the sun."²²³

Hadrat Mufti Nizām ud Dīn Shāmzī رض says that this narration is reliable.²²⁴

We find another *hasan*²²⁵ narration of *Al Fitān* - compiled by Nu'aym bin Hammād,

²²² Mustadrak vol.4 p.596, Hadith 8658

²²³ Muṣannaf 'Abdur Razzāq vol.11 p.373, Hadith 20775

²²⁴ Aqidah Zuhūr e Mahdī p.53

²²⁵ *Hasan* is translated as 'good'. There are two types of *Hasan* in *Hadith* terminology. (i) *Hasan Li Dhātihi* – the narration that fulfills all the conditions of *Sahih li Dhātihi*, except that the recording of the narrator is not complete. This

حدثنا ابن المبارك وابن ثور وعبد الرزاق ، عن معمر ، عن طاوس ، عن علي بن عبد الله بن عباس رضي الله عنه قال : لا يخرج المهدى حتى تطلع الشمس آية . الفتنة رقم ٢٦٠ ٩٥٩

It is narrated from 'Alî bin 'Abdullâh bin 'Abbâs رض , "Mahdî will not emerge until the sun does not rise as a sign."

(2) KHURÂSÂN AND THE BLACK FLAGS

There are many narrations about the appearance of black flags from Khurâsân in the incidents at the time of the emergence of Hadrat Mahdî رض. A few of them are presented here with a basic analysis of their reliability,

عن علي ابن أبي طالب رضي الله عنه قال : إذا خرج خيل السفياني إلى الكوفة بعث في طلب أهل خراسان ، وينحرج أهل خراسان في طلب المهدى ، فيلتقي هو وأصحاب السفياني بباب اصطخر ، ف تكون بينهم ملحمة عظيمة ، فنظهر الرایات السود وتهرب خيل السفياني ، فعند ذلك يتمنى الناس المهدى ويطلبونه . منتخب كنز العمال على هامش مسند أحمد ٦٣٣ والفتن ٢١٨

رقم ٨٦٨

shortcoming cannot be made up by the same narration being narrated through other chains. (ii) Hasan li Ghayrihî – that narration in whose narrators all or some of the conditions of reliability are not found. However, this shortcoming can be made up if the narration is narrated through other chains. [Irshâd Uṣûl ul Ḥadîth pp.65-66] – [T]

(1) It is narrated from Hadrat 'Alî رض²²⁶ "When the army of Sufyâni will come out to Kûfah, he will then send an army in search of the people of Khurâsân. The people of Khurâsân will leave in search of the Mahdî. They (the people of Khurâsân – [T]) will meet them (the army of Sufyâni – [T]) and the Hâshimî with black flags. Shu'ayb bin Sâlih will be at the head of this army. There will be a great battle between these two armies. The Hâshimî army will win and the army of Sufyâni will flee. The people will then hope for the Mahdî and will search for him."

Although this narration is classified as *mauqûf*²²⁷, it will be placed in the category of *marfû'* (see footnote 53). This is because these very same words are found in *marfû'* (see footnote 53) narrations. There is a well-known principle according to the scholars of Hadîth and scholars of the principles of Hadîth that the saying of a sâhabî رض that is beyond analogy will be placed in the category of *marfû'* (see footnote 53).

عن أم سلمة رضي الله عنها إذا رأيتم الرايات السود قد جاءت من قبل خراسان فأتوها ، فإن فيها خليفة الله المهدى . منتخب كنز العمال ٧٢٩

(2) It is narrated from Hadrat Umm e Salamah *radîyallâhu anha* , "When you see black flags coming from Khurâsân, then go there because the *khalîfah* of Allâh, the Mahdî, is among them."²²⁸

This narration is reliable.²²⁹

²²⁶ This narration is not translated word for word

²²⁷ *Mauqûf* refers to a statement or action of a sâhabî. [Irshâd Uṣûl ul Ḥadîth p.55] – [T]

²²⁸ Muntakhab Kanz ul 'Ummâl vol.6 p.29

²²⁹ 'Aqidah Zuhûr e Mahdî p.65

حدثنا محمد بن يحيى وأحمد بن يوسف ، قالا حدثنا عبد الرزاق ، عن سفيان الثوري ، عن خالد الحذاء ، عن أبي القلاية ، عن أبي أسماء الرحيبي ، عن ثوبان رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : "يقتل عند كنزكم ثلاثة ، كلهم ابن خليفة - ثم لا يصير إلى واحد منهم ، ثم نطلع الرايات السود من قبل المشرق - فيقتلونكم قتلام يقتله قوم - ثم ذكر شيئاً لا أحفظه ، فقال : فإذا رأيتموه فباعوه ولو حبوا على الثلوج ، فإنه خليفة الله المهدى".

سنن ابن ماجة ٣٦٠

(3) *Hadrat Thaubân* narrates that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "Three people will fight over your treasure. All of them are sons of khulafâ' (princes). However, none of them will get it. Then, black flags will appear from the east. They will fight you in such a way that no nation has fought you before - the narrator says that he ﷺ said something which I do not remember - he ﷺ then said that when you see him, then pledge allegiance to him even if you have to go to him crawling on ice for he is the khalifah of Allâh, the Mahdi."²³⁰

This narration is also reliable although it is recorded in *Sunan Ibn Mâjah*. It is not from the *da'if* (see footnote 83) and *maudû'* (see footnote 85) narrations of *Sunan Ibn Mâjah*. In addition, there are narrations of *Sunan Abû Dawûd* and *Mustadrak Hâkim* that corroborate this one. The narrations of other *sahâbah* also support this one. For details, see 'Aqîdah *Zuhûr e Mahdî* of Mufti Nizâm ud Dîn Shâmzî رحمه الله pp.37-38.

²³⁰ *Sunan Ibn Mâjah* p.310

'Allâmah Sindî رحمه الله says, 'Abul Hasan bin Sufyân رحمه الله has recorded this narration in his *Musnâd* and Abû Nu'aym has mentioned it in *Kitâb al Mahdî* from the chain of Ibrâhîm bin Suwayd Shâmî رحمه الله. This narration is *sâhih* (see footnote 210) through this chain and all the narrators are reliable.²³¹

عن ثوبان رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم إذا رأيتم الرايات السود قد جاءت من قبل خراسان فأتوها ، فإن فيها خليفة الله المهدى . رواه أحمد ٥٨٧٧ رقم ٢٢٧٤٦

(4) It is narrated from *Hadrat Thaubân* that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "When you see black flags coming from Khurâsân, then go there for among them is the khalifah of Allâh, the Mahdi."²³²

There is another narration of *Sunan Abû Dawûd* regarding this in which it is explained that a king of Khurâsân will help *Hadrat Mahdî* رحمه الله, it is quoted below,

عن هلال بن عمرو قال : سمعت علياً كرم الله وجهه يقول : قال النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم : "يخرج رجل من وراء النهر يقال له الحارث (بن في نسخة) حراث على مقدمته رجل يقال له منصور يؤتى أو يمكن لآل محمد كما مكتن قريش لرسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم وجب على كل مؤمن نصره أو قال اجابته . أبو داؤد ٢٥٨٩ رقم ٤٢٩٠

²³¹ *Tarjumân us Sunnah* vol.4 p.390

²³² Ahmad vol.5 p.177, Hadîth 22746

(5) It is narrated from *Hilâl bin 'Amr*, he says, "I heard 'Ali karramallâhu wajhahu saying, "Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "A person will emerge from the land behind the river. His name will be Al Hârith (son of, in one copy) Harrâth. At the head (of this group - [T]) will be a man called Mansûr. He will give protection to the family of Muhammad (ﷺ - [T]) like the *Quraysh* gave to Rasûlullâh ﷺ. It is wâjib upon every believer to help him, or he said, (it is wâjib upon every believer to accept his command - [T])."²³³

Shâh Rafî' ud Dîn writes in 'Alâmât e Qiyâmat p.11, 'When the news of the emergence of *Mahdi* will spread throughout the Muslim world, then a person from *Khurâsân* will come to help him. At the front of this huge army will be a person called Mansûr. He will wipe out many Christians and atheists that they will find on the way.'

Note: There is some debate on the authenticity of the above-mentioned narrations. However, strength is added to them considering that they are narrated through various chains.

SCRUTINY OF FAMOUS SIGNS AND THEIR REJECTION

(1) A SOLAR AND LUNAR ECLIPSE IN RAMADÂN BEFORE THE EMERGENCE OF THE MAHDI

A solar and lunar eclipse in the month of *Ramadân* before the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ is among the famous aspects regarding his (Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ's) emergence. Such an amazing thing would have never happened since the creation of the heavens and the earth. Hadrat Shâh Rafî' ud Dîn رحمۃ اللہ علیہ writes,

²³³ Sunan Abû Dâwûd vol.2 p.589, Hadith 4290

'This has become famous on the basis of the following narration,

حدثنا أبو سعيد الأصطخري ، حدثنا محمد بن نوفل ، حدثنا عبد بن يعيش ، حدثنا يونس بن بكر ، عن عمرو بن شمر ، عن جابر ، عن محمد بن علي قال : إن لهدينا آيتين لم تكونا منذ خلق السموات والأرض ، ينكسف القمر لأول ليلة من رمضان وتنكسف الشمس في النصف منه ، ولم تكونا منذ خلق الله السموات والأرض . سنن الدارقطني ٢٤٥ رقم ١٧٧٧ أو

١٨٨

It is narrated from Muhammad bin 'Ali رضي الله عنهما, "Indeed for our *Mahdi* there are two signs that have never happened since the creation of the heavens and the earth. (The first is that) there will be a lunar eclipse on the first night of *Ramadân*. (The second is that) there will be a solar eclipse halfway through the same *Ramadân*. These two signs would never have occurred since the creation of the heavens and the earth."

The first thing that one should remember concerning this narration is that this narration is definitely not a Hadîth. It is a statement of Muhammad bin 'Ali رضي الله عنهما. It is a false allegation to classify this as a statement of Rasûlullâh ﷺ until clear proof does not show otherwise. In fact, it will necessitate the following Hadîth,

من كذب على متعمداً الخ

"He who willfully attributes a false statement to me should build his abode in the fire."

The chain of narration of this statement of Muhammad bin 'Ali is rejected on the following premises,

- One narrator of this statement is 'Amr bin Shamr. Hâfiż Ibn Hajar 'Asqalâni رض and 'Allâmah Shams ud Dîn Dhahabî رض have used harsh words for him, like, *kadh dhâb*²³⁴, *râfidî*, a swearer of the *sahâbah* رض, *matrûk al hadîth* etc. One of his very bad habits was that he used to attribute fabricated narrations to reliable narrators and narrate them. For this reason, these scholars have passed the decision not to accept his narrations.²³⁵
'Amr bin Shamr used to narrate *maudû* '(see footnote 85) narrations from Jâbir Ju'fi.
- The second narrator of this statement is Jâbir Ju'fi. He is very greatly debated (*mutakallam fîh*). He was a staunch shî'a and a swearer of the *sahâbah* رض. Imâm Muslim رض has explained the *jarh* (see footnote 193) of Jâbir Ju'fi done by four great scholars through six chains on p.15 of his introduction to *Sahîh Muslim*. His belief in *îrjâ*²³⁶ is at the top of the list. Imâm Abû Hanîfah رض says, "From all the liars that I have come across, I have never seen a greater liar than Jâbir Ju'fi. Details of Jâbir Ju'fi are explained in *Tahdhîb ut Tahdhîb* vol.1 p.352.
- The third narrator is Muhammad bin 'Alî. Many narrators have this name. There is no clarity about who this Muhammad bin 'Alî is. Therefore, this narrator is also *mâjhûl* (see footnote 77). To take Muhammad bin 'Alî to mean Hadrat Bâqir رض, as is the opinion of some scholars is also without proof.

²³⁴ A great liar – [T]

²³⁵ *Lisân ul Mizân* vol.4 p.422, *Mizân al I'tidâl* vol.2 p.262

²³⁶ Being part of the *Murji'a* sect – [T]

This narration has no credibility in the light of the above-mentioned reasons. It cannot be presented as proof for such an important subject like the emergence of Mahdî. Similarly, this sign of an eclipse at the time of Hadrat Mahdî رض cannot be proven from this narration.

A similar narration is found in *Îqd ud Durar fî Akhbâr al Muntazar* of Shaykh Yûsuf Maqdisî رض and in the shî'a book, '*Bashâratul Anâm bi Zuhûr al Mahdî 'alayhî as Salâm lil Kâzîmî*'. This narration states, 'The solar eclipse will take place halfway through Ramadân and the lunar eclipse will take place at the end of Ramadân. These two signs would have never happened since Hadrat Âdâm رض came down to the earth.'

The discussion and debate on this narration is very similar to the discussion and debate on the narration of *Sunan Ad Dâr Qutnî* that was previously mentioned. Therefore, this narration is also not credible.²³⁷

Over and above this, from 1801 to 1900 there has been a solar and lunar eclipse in Ramadân five times. One aspect that also deserves attention is that from 1851 to 1895, in just 45 years, this (a solar and lunar eclipse) has occurred 3 times in Ramadân. One can judge from this as to how many times it would have occurred before that. Therefore, how can it be correct to say that this phenomenon would have never happened since the time that Allah عز created the earth and skies? From this, we learn that this narration is not correct even from a factual point of view.²³⁸

²³⁷ Adapted from *Radd e Qâdiyâniyyat ke Zarî Usûl* and *Fiqhî Jawâhir* p.3

²³⁸ See *Radd e Qâdiyâniyyat ke Zarî Usûl* and *Fiqhî Jawâhir* for details

(2) WILL THERE BE A CALL FROM THE HEAVENS UPON THE EMERGENCE OF HADRAT MAHDI ﷺ?

One of the signs of the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ explained in the Urdu and Arabic books written on the subject of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ is that when Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ emerges, there will be the following call from the skies,

هذا خليفة الله المهدى فأطعوه

'This is the *khalifah* of Allâh, the *Mahdi*, so obey him.'

This has also become famous among the people. Therefore, it is necessary for us to learn of its credibility.

Some of the narrations found in the different books of Hadith are presented below,

حدثنا ابراهيم بن محمد بن عرق الحمصي ، حدثنا عبد الوهاب بن ضحاك ، حدثنا اسحاق بن عياش ، عن صفوان بن عمرو ، عن عبد الرحمن بن جبير بن نفير ، عن كثير بن مرة ، عن عبد الله بن عمرو بن العاص ، عن النبي صل الله عليه وسلم أنه قال : يخرج المهدى زعلى رأسه ملك ينادي "إن هذا المهدى فاتبعوه" . مسند الشاميين ٢٧١ رقم ٩٣٧

*It is narrated from Hadrat Abdullâh bin 'Amr bin al 'Âs ﷺ that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "The *Mahdi* will emerge in such a way that there will be an angel above his head calling out, 'This is the *Mahdi*, so follow him.'*²³⁹

Similarly, Imâm Ibn 'Adî رحمه الله has transmitted the following Hadith in his '*Al Kâmil fi Du 'afâ ar Rijâl*' with its chains and texts with slight differences (among them - [T]).

²³⁹ *Musnad Ash Shâmiyyin* vol.2 p.71, Hadith 937

حدثنا محمد بن عبيد الله بن فضيل ، حدثنا عبد الوهاب بن ضحاك ، حدثنا اسماعيل بن عياش ، عن صفوان بن عمرو ، عن عبد الرحمن بن جبير بن نفير ، عن كثير بن مرة ، عن عبد الله بن عمرو بن العاص ، عن النبي صل الله عليه وسلم قال : "يخرج المهدى زعلى رأسه غرامة ، فيها مناد ينادي : ألا إن هذا المهدى فاتبعوه" . الكامل ٦/٥١٦،٥١٥

*It is narrated from Hadrat Abdullâh bin 'Amr bin al 'Âs ﷺ that Rasûlullâh ﷺ said, "The *Mahdi* will emerge in such a way that there will be a cloud above his head in which there will be an angel calling out, 'Indeed this is the *Mahdi*, so follow him.'*²⁴⁰

Both of these narrations are based on 'Abdul Wahhâb bin Dahhâk bin Abâ' As Sulamî Al 'Urdî. The imams of *Jârh* and *Tâ'âdil*²⁴¹ have mentioned very harsh statements regarding him. Hâfiż Ibn Hajar 'Asqalâni رحمه الله writes,

قال البخاري : عنده عجائب ، وقال أبو داؤد : كان يضع الحديث قد رأيته ، قال النساء : ليس بشقة متراك ، وقال العقيلي والدارقطني والبيهقي : متراك . قال صالح بن محمد الحافظ : منكر الحديث ، عامة حديثه كذب . تهذيب

التهذيب ٣/٥٢٨،٥٢٧

²⁴⁰ *Al Kâmil* vol.6 pp.515-516

²⁴¹ *Jârh* and *Tâ'âdil* refers to the branch of Hadith study that deals with the reliability of narrators regarding certain words and the grading of those words. [Ishâd Usûl ul Hadith p.150] - [T]

Bukhārī says, "He has strange narrations." Abū Dāwūd says, "I have seen him fabricate narrations." Nasā'ī says, "He is not *thiqah*²⁴² and is *matrūk*." 'Uqaylī, Ad Dār Qutnī and Bayhaqī say, "He is *matrūk*." Sālih bin Muḥammad al Ḥāfiẓ says, "He is *munkar* al *hadīth* (see footnote 76) and most of his *Aḥādīth* are lies."²⁴³

Statements of a similar nature is also mentioned in *Mīzān al I'tidāl* vol.2 pp.160-161.

Nu'aym bin Ḥammād رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ has also transmitted a few narrations on this subject in *Al Fitān*. However, they are *Āthār* (see footnote 2) of the *sahābah* رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ and *tābi'īn*. Only one narration is *marfū'* (see footnote 53) According to critical analysis, all these narrations are debated.

There are narrations of *Kanz ul Ummāl* vol.14 p.584 and *Muṣannaf Ibn Abī Shaybah* vol.7 p.531 that show the same meaning.

The summary of this study is that this narration cannot be used as proof for such an important subject like the emergence of *Mahdī* when looking at its chain of transmission.

UNTRACEABLE ASPECTS

Many things related to *Hadrat Mahdī* رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ have been mentioned. We tried throughout this book to present all that which is in line with authentic *Aḥādīth*. However, there are some things for which I could not find a narration backed by a strong chain, or some things are such that they are mentioned in the works of our

²⁴² Reliable – [T]

²⁴³ *Tahdhīb ut Tahdhīb* vol.3 pp.527-528

luminaries but I could not find any reliable sources for them. Therefore, they are mentioned here separately.

1. *Hadrat Mahdī* رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ will misinform others and run from Makkah Mukarramah to Madīnah Munawwarah.

2.

عن علی رضی الله عنه قال : یبعث جیش إلى المدينة فیأخذون من قدروا عليه من آل محمد صلی الله علیه وسلم ویقتل من بنی هاشم رجالا ونساء ، فعند ذلك یهرب المهدی والمبیض من المدينة إلى مکة الخ . منتخب کنز العمال

٧٣٣

It is narrated from *Hadrat 'Alī* رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ, "An army will be sent from Madīnah. They will catch whoever they find belonging to the family of Muḥammad ﷺ and they will kill many men and women from the *Banū Hāshim*. At that time, the *Mahdī* and *Mubayyid* will flee Madīnah for Makkah."²⁴⁴

3. *Hadrat Mahdī* رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ will come out in this way that there will be a cloud above his head shading him. A hand will be protruding from this cloud and will be pointing towards *Hadrat Mahdī* رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ.

4. The following call will be made from the heavens,

أَلَا إِنَّ الْحَقَّ فِي آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ

Listen, the truth lies in the family of Muḥammad ﷺ

²⁴⁴ *Muntakhab Kanz ul Ummāl* vol.6 p.33

5. The emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ will take place after *Ishâ' salâh* on the tenth of Muharram.

6. The clothing, sword and flag of Rasûlullâh ﷺ will be with Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ and the following words will be written on them,

البيعة لله

7. The sign of Rasûlullâh ﷺ will be upon his shoulders.

8. The sea will split for Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ just as it did for the *Banî Isrâ'îl*.

9. Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ will place a dry branch in the earth and it will immediately become green and lush.

10. He will be given *ilm e ladunni*²⁴⁵.

11. He (Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ) will have a box. Most of the Jews will accept Islâm upon seeing it.

12. Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ will have a stutter. Due to this, he will have difficulty in speaking and he will hit his thigh with his right hand.

There are many other things written on this subject that one will find and read but they have been left out because no

²⁴⁵ Knowledge from Allâh ﷺ, acquired without learning – [T]

authentic chain of transmission could be found for them. They were also left out for brevity.

Narrations stating the above-mentioned things are either *da'if* (see footnote 83) or *maqtû'* (see footnote 61). Some are also *maudû'* (see footnote 85). These things have become famous among people. That is why we have explained them here to inform them (of its unreliability – [T]).

KASHF AND ILHÂM AND THEIR STATUS IN THE SHARÎ'AH

There are many *mukâshafât*²⁴⁶ regarding Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ that are narrated from the luminaries. Many books mention these *mukâshafât* with great importance. Some people narrate these *mukâshafât* with no caution whatsoever. They then gradually become famous among the people and then the people take it to be based on reliable sources.

There are some *mukâshafât*, prophesies and sayings of luminaries of the recent past that are narrated. Leaving aside whether it is correct or not to attribute them to these luminaries of *dîn*, we only intend to explain the reality and status of *kashf* and *ilhâm*.

The lexical meaning of *kashf* is 'to open'. The technical definition of *kashf* is 'the knowledge that Allâh ﷺ opens to somebody, whether it be a *nâbî* or *wâli*²⁴⁷, obedient or sinner, Muslim or non-Muslim, man or animal.' The implication of *kashf*

²⁴⁶ Disclosures – [T]

²⁴⁷ A very pious servant of Allâh ﷺ - [T]

is general. However, according to our common usage, *kashf* is also special with the pious as *ilhām* is.

Although *kashf* and *ilhām* differ in their comprehended meanings, and they are similar in implication, they are both *zanni*²⁴⁸ in the light of *shari'ah*.²⁴⁹ It is not *wājib* or desired to have *imān* in them. *Kashf* and *ilhām* are neither part of the integrals of Islām nor are they part of the principles of *dīn* nor do they stand as proof of *shari'ah*. The only thing that we can do is make a premature surmise of it that could or could not turn out to be reality. It is similar to the interpretation of dreams.

A similar discussion is found in *Khayr al Fatāwā* of Maulānā Khayr Muhammad Jālandhārī [vol.1 pp.67-68]. It was written in reply to a request for a *fatwā*.

Hadrat Maulānā Muhammad Yūsuf Ludhiyānī has written the following in reply to a question regarding this, 'The meaning of *kashf* is the disclosure of something. *Ilhām* refers to something that is put in the heart and the meaning of *bashārat* is glad-tidings, like seeing a good dream.'

He further writes,

'*Kashf*, *ilhām* and *bashārat* is possible after the demise of Rasūlullāh ﷺ, but it is not a proof of *shari'ah*. Claims that it is indisputable cannot be made and no-one can claim that it must be believed.'

He writes in reply to another question,

'A person who is not a *nabī* can get *kashf* or *ilhām* but it is not a proof. A ruling cannot be based on it. It will be judged in the light of *shari'ah*. If it is correct, it will be accepted, otherwise not. This

²⁴⁸ *Zanni* refers to anything that is of a grading other than *Mutawātir* – [T]

²⁴⁹ Disputable

will be the case when the person follows the *sunnah* of Rasūlullāh ﷺ and is an adherent of the *shari'ah*. If a person lives against the *sunnah* of Rasūlullāh ﷺ, then his claim of *kashf* and *ilhām* is a devilish plot.²⁵⁰

Kashf and *ilhām* is not a proof in *dīn* and religion. The meaning of this is that the phenomenon of *kashf* is proven from authentic texts but there is possibility of error with regards to the specific time and place in the *kashf* of people other than the *Ambiyā'*. Hadrat Maulānā Rashīd Ahmad Gangohī رضی اللہ عنہ says,

'There are three types of *mukāshafāt*. One is subject to divine working. Muslims and non-Muslims are on par in this type. One type is from the *lauh e mahfūz*²⁵¹. This is special with Muslims. However, the following verse (clarifies its reality – [T]),

يَمْحُو اللَّهُ مَا يَشَاءُ وَيُثْبِتُ وَعِنْدَهُ أَمْ الْكِتَابِ

Allāh erases whatever He wills and keeps in place. With *Him* is the Mother of Books. [Sūrah ar Ra'd (Thunder) 13:39]

One type is from the special knowledge of *Allāh* ﷺ. This is only for the *ambiyā'*. There is possibility of error in the first two, but not in the third. This is because specification of place and time is by estimation, but the past, present and future are all the same in the knowledge of *Allāh* ﷺ. Therefore, the knowledge of the *ambiyā'* is pure from error.²⁵²

²⁵⁰ Āp ke Masā'il Aur un ka Hal vol.1 pp.34-35

²⁵¹ The protected tablet – [T]

²⁵² Arwāh e Thalātha p.295

There has been *mukâshafât* of certain scholars about the specific year in which Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ will emerge. However, they were proven wrong. Hadrat Maulânâ Muhammad Ya'qûb Nânotwî ﷺ writes in one of his letters²⁵³,

'Some people of *kashf* think that the emergence of Mahdi and other promised signs of *Qiyâmah* will take place in the next century. Some have said that this time is still far away. Allâh knows best. It is unnecessary to state anything with regard to that which has been written after that. Whatever Allâh wants, that will happen.'²⁵⁴

He ﷺ writes in another letter²⁵⁵ in the interpretation of a dream,

'What is surprising about meeting Imâm Mahdi? One could attain it because many signs have become apparent. What is surprising if his emergence takes place in the first or second year of this century, in accordance to the *kashf* of the pious?' Allâh knows best.²⁵⁶

We learn from the above that some people of *kashf* had *kashf* of the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ in 1301 or 1302. We are now in 1426²⁵⁷ and Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ has not yet emerged.

The *kashf* of the friends of Allâh will be considered when it is not in conflict with the Qur'ân, Hadîth, *Ijmâ'* and correct *Qiyâs*. This is agreed upon by the former and latter day scholars as explained by Qâdî Thanâ' ullaâh Pânîpattî ﷺ in *'Irshâd ut*

²⁵³ Sent on 12 Shawwâl 1294

²⁵⁴ *Maktûbât wa Bayâd e Ya'qûbî* p.111

²⁵⁵ Sent on 24 Dhû al Qâ'dah 1299

²⁵⁶ *Ibid* p.129

²⁵⁷ This is the year when the original Urdu book was written. This translation is being prepared in 1431. – [T]

Tâlibîn'. To specify a year for the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ is in conflict with the authentic *nusûs*²⁵⁸. The demand of the *nusûs* is that the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ is kept hidden by Allâh ﷺ. The time will come when this secret will be suddenly opened. This matter has been kept so secret that Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ will not be aware of his own position just before his emergence.²⁵⁹

The difference between *wâhi*, *ilhâm* and *kashf* can be understood in the following way,

Wâhi refers to only that knowledge which is placed in the heart of a *nâbi*. It matters not in which way it happens. The scholars of Hadîth have explained different types of *wâhi*. Anyway, the knowledge of *wâhi* is indisputable and it is necessary to believe in it.

Ilhâm is that knowledge which is placed in a blessed heart that has a proper nature. This is without striving for it and deducing it. If the placing of this knowledge is in the heart of a *nâbi*, then it is called *wâhi* and it will be indisputable. If it is placed in the heart of anyone else, then it will be called *ilhâm* according to common usage. This knowledge is *zanni* (see footnote 248).

Another difference between *wâhi* and *ilhâm* is that the *wâhi* and *ilhâm* of the *ambiyâ'* consists of commands and prohibitions. Therefore, it is *wâjib* for the *nâbi* to propagate it. The *ilhâm* of the pious consists of glad-tidings and deep understanding. It is not *wâjib* upon them to propagate their *ilhâm*. It is better for them to keep it hidden until a *shârî* or *dînî* need arises.

²⁵⁸ Clear texts of the Qur'ân and Hadîth – [T]

²⁵⁹ Adapted from *Fiqhî Jawâhir* vol.3 pp.84-85

Hadrat Mufti Mahmûd Hasan Gangohî رحمه الله once narrated an incident,

'Twenty five years ago, one person told me that Imâm Mahdî was born from such a time. Hadrat Mîkâ'il رض has informed me. He has not emerged yet. He indicated a cubit's length saying that it is equal to a cubit's length.'²⁶⁰

THE COMPANIONS OF HADRAT MAHDI رض

There are many signs and glad-tidings in the narrations regarding those fortunate Muslims who will get the opportunity to strive for universal *îmânî* revival together with Hadrat Mahdî رض.

1. His companions will be beloved to Allâh عز وجل and Allâh عز وجل will forgive them.

2. Their hearts will be united.

3. They will fear none but Allâh عز وجل.

4. The companions of Hadrat Mahdî رض will initially be weak as far as apparent strength is concerned.

5. The 313 people that will pledge allegiance at his hands first, will be the highest in *îmânî* status after the *khayr al qurûn* (see footnote 145).

²⁶⁰ *Malfuzât Faqîh ul Ummah* vol.9 p.55

6. The companions of Hadrat Mahdî رض together with Hadrat 'Isâ صل will afterwards fight against the Jews in the final battle.

7. One division of the troops of the companions of Hadrat Mahdî رض will fight against *Dajjâl*.

8. The *ka bâh* will be their place of safety.

9. They will not be scared of anyone nor will they see somebody and become pleased. They will be involved in their pursuit. Their goal (to elevate the word of Allâh عز وجل) will be of top priority. They will also be united.

حدثنا أبو العباس محمد بن يعقوب ، حدثنا الحسن بن علي بن عفان العامري ، حدثنا عمرو بن محمد العنقرى ، حدثنا يونس بن أبي اسحق ، أخبرني عمار الذهبي ، عن أبي الطفيل ، عن محمد بن الحنفية قال : كنا عند علي رضي الله عنه فسأله رجل عن المهدى فقال علي رضي الله عنه : هيهات ، ثم عقد بيده سبعا فقال ذاك يخرج في آخر الزمان ، إذا قال الرجل : الله الله : قتل فيجمع الله تعالى قوما قرع كقنع السحاب يؤلف الله بين قلوبهم ، لا يستو حشون إلى أحد ولا يفرحون بأحد يدخل فيهم ، على عدة أصحاب بدر ، لم يسبقهم الأولون ولا يدركهم الآخرون ، وعلى عدة أصحاب طالوت الذين جاوزوا معه النهر . هذا حديث صحيح على شرط الشيخين ، ولم يخرجاه . مستدرك للحاكم

"Listen," He then made the sign of seven with his hands. He then said, "He will emerge in the final era in such conditions that if someone has to say, 'Allâh, Allâh', he will be killed. Allâh will then gather such a nation that will be like clouds. All joined to one another. Allâh will join their hearts. They will not be scared by anyone nor will they become happy at the one who joins them. They will be equal in number to those who fought at Badr. No one in the past will be able to surpass them in rank (except those of the *khayr al qurûn* (see footnote 145)), nor will anyone in the future catch up to them. They will be the same in number as the companions of Tâlût who crossed the river with him."²⁶¹

SPECIAL DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING THE COMPANIONS OF HADRAT MAHDI IN THE AHÂDÎTH

1. The army that Hadrat Mahdi will take from Madînah Munawwarah to Shâm will consist of the most virtuous Muslims of the world at that time. The following is mentioned in *Sahîh Muslim*,

فيخرج إليهم جيش من خيار أهل الأرض يومئذ الخ . صحيح

مسلم ٢٣٩١ رقم ٢٨٩٧

2. The martyrs in Shâm will be the most virtuous martyrs after those of the era of Rasûlullâh . The next part of the above-mentioned narration of *Sahîh Muslim* states,

²⁶¹ Mustadrak Hâkim vol.4 p.554

أفضل الشهداء عند الله . صحيح مسلم ٢٣٩٢

3. Those Muslims who flee the battlefields of Shâm²⁶² due to the small number of Muslims and huge number of Christians will never be forgiven by Allâh .

4. It is explained in the Hadîth that the leader of the army at the time of the conquest of Constantinople will be very good, i.e. Hadrat Mahdi . That army will also be very blessed.

5. After the conquest of Constantinople, the lies of *Dajjâl* will spread. Hadrat Mahdi will send a contingent of ten men in order to establish the truth regarding *Dajjâl*. They will be the best people on the face of the earth at that time.

ANSWER TO AN IMPORTANT QUESTION

Will there be modern scientific inventions during the time of Hadrat Mahdi, or will it be like former times?

Many Muslims are confused over whether the world will return to previous ways or will modern scientific technology be present during (and after – [T]) the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi .

Regarding this subject, (we quote – [T]) an answer written by Hadrat Maulânâ Muhammad Yûsuf Ludhiyânwî (The following important question was posed to him – [T])

²⁶² One third of the army

Question:

I read your article '*Alâmat e Qiyâmat*' in the daily '*Jang*'²⁶³. There is no doubt that the solution to every query is satisfactory and they are backed by references from the Qur'an and *Hadîth*. This article also shows your knowledge and (depth of - [T]) research. However, we do not understand one aspect. After reading the article, one comes to the conclusion that horses, swords, bows and arrows etc. will be used in the war between (the Muslims comprising of - [T]) *Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ and *Hadrat 'Isâ* ﷺ against the non-Muslims and Christians. The armies will face one another in the battlefield like the times of before.

You wrote that *Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ will send nine horsemen from Constantinople to Shâm in order to find out about *Dajjâl*. It is as if there will be no aircraft. Then, *Hadrat 'Isâ* ﷺ will destroy *Dajjâl* using a spear. (Similarly, - [T]) when *Yâjûj* and *Mâjûj* will cause corruption, then they will have bows and arrows, i.e. it will not be the era of guns, rifles, pistols and explosives. From the time that man set foot on earth, science has always been developing and before *Qiyâmah*, it would have advanced in leaps (and bounds - [T]).

The second point is that you have written that upon the command of *Hadrat 'Isâ* ﷺ, a few individuals will take refuge in the fort of Mount *Tûr* in order to save themselves from the nation of *Yâjûj* and *Mâjûj*. This implies that the rest of the people who became Muslims will be left to the mercy of *Yâjûj* and *Mâjûj*. It is logical to assume that such a fort cannot accommodate so many people. I cannot remember a *du 'â'* that I read in one book that Rasûlullâh ﷺ prescribed to recite for protection from *Dajjâl*.

²⁶³ A newspaper published in Pakistan - [T]

Write this *du 'â'* together with clarifying the above-mentioned points.

Answer:

The structure of civilization changes all the time. All would have suspected a person of being mad if he had to explain the communication systems and weapons that we have today, one hundred and fifty or two hundred years ago. Allâh knows best as to whether this scientific technology will advance or will it commit suicide and the structure of civilization would return to the like of former times.

The possibility of this second option always exists and the bodies of scientists tremble due to this. If this is the case, then no objection remains about the circumstances that will prevail during the era of *Hadrat Mahdî* ﷺ and *Hadrat 'Isâ* ﷺ.

We have been commanded to recite *Sûrah al Kahf* (the Cave) on Fridays. Every Muslim should recite at least the first and last ten verses. The following *du 'â'* is narrated in the *Ahâdîth*,
 اللهم إني أعوذ بك من عذاب جهنم ، وأعوذ بك من عذاب القبر ، وأعوذ بك
 من فتنة المسيح الدجال . اللهم إني أعوذ بك من فتنة المحيي والممات . اللهم إني
 أعوذ بك من المأثم والمعرم . آپ کے مسائل اور ان کا حل ۱/۲۶۹، ۲۶۸

O Allâh, verily I seek protection in You from the punishment of *Jahannam*, and I seek protection in You from the punishment of the grave, and I seek protection in You from the *fitnah* of *Al Masîh Ad Dajjâl*. O Allâh, verily I seek protection in You from the *fitnah*

of life and death. O Allâh, verily I seek protection in You from sin and loss.²⁶⁴

Note: Some writers have referred to the equipment of war in the battles of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ in new terms. From this, we understand that later inventions will also be used in his victories. This is only speculation. Allâh ﷺ knows best what is to happen.

PARTS OF THE INTERVIEW WITH HADRAT MUFTÎ MUHAMMAD RAFÎ 'UTHMÂNÎ *dâmat barakâtuhi*

Question:

Give us some guidance regarding the glad-tidings that Rasûlullâh ﷺ gave and provide an explanation that corroborates them.

Answer:

If we scrutinize the prophesies of Rasûlullâh ﷺ, then we learn that the politics, geography and the fast-changing conditions of the world are all taking the world to the time before the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ. This entire field is being prepared for it. It is also proven from the narrations that there will be great difference of opinion among the Muslims during the time of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ. He ﷺ will end the differences and the Islâmic *khilâfah* will once again be established. The head of this *khilâfah* will be Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ. Apparently, this time does not seem far away.

Question:

²⁶⁴ *Ap ke Masâ'il Aur un ka Hal* vol.1 pp.268-269

The emergence of *Dajjâl* is also said to concurrently occur with the emergence of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ?

Answer:

It will be a trying time for the entire *ummah*. It will not be a time of disgrace for the *ummah* because the Muslims will be united under the flag of one leader and the truth will be open before them. The decision of Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ will stand as the truth and whatever is in conflict with it is baseless. They will not have the trouble we currently face, difficulty in deciding on who is correct. We acknowledge that many lives will be lost and great sacrifice will be given. However, there will not be wrangling and disgrace. Muslims will die honourably.²⁶⁵

Muftî Muhammad Rafî' has written an article on this subject titled, '*Ambiyâ' kî sar Zamîn me Chand Roz*'. It was published in separate parts in *Al Balâgh*. The fifth part is indispensable in our study. He writes, 'Some signs of *Qiyâmah* are:

Most of the land stolen from the Muslims by the *Isrâ'îlis* were seen together with the historical places we visited in Jordan. The hearts which have been wounded due to evil actions from before, when witnessing these places themselves, suffer injury upon injury. (Therefore, - [T]) we are suffering injury upon injury when looking at these events. If we look at the fast changing world and the way in which it is changing in the last sixty years, especially in the Middle East, in the light of the signs explained by Rasûlullâh ﷺ, then we clearly realize that the world is now moving rapidly towards *Qiyâmah*.

²⁶⁵ *Al Balâgh* vol.6 no.11, January 2004

At every step of the journey through Jordan and Syria, we see that the field for Imâm Mahdi's emergence and the war against Dajjâl is being prepared. (Similarly, - [T]) the killing of Dajjâl immediately after the descent of Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ during this battle as well as the mass killing of the Jews - which the Jews are unknowingly preparing themselves - is before us. Well before the time of Rasûlullâh ﷺ, Nebuchadnezzar defeated the Jews and they were dispersed all over the world in disgrace. This was their condition until approximately 60 years ago. Now, after thousands of years, they are coming from all parts of the world to Palestine. In other words, they are gathering at the place where they will be killed. They are making it apparent that they are busy in making the work of the army of Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ and Hadrat Mahdi ﷺ very easy. In the words of my honourable father²⁶⁶, 'where will Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ go looking for them throughout the world?'

We learn that the Jews take Dajjâl to be their leader. What is surprising to note is that they are waiting for him at the place where he will come and be killed - in accordance to the prophesy of Rasûlullâh ﷺ. One of our hosts - Hasan Yûsuf, who was mentioned many times before - is from among the original residents of Palestine. He migrated from there approximately 25 to 30 years ago and is now living in 'Ammân. He told us that he went to a city called 'Ludd' during a *tabligh* journey to Palestine. This city is close to Jerusalem. He saw a big gate called 'Bâb Ludd'²⁶⁷. The *Isrâ'ili* administration wrote the following line on this gate,

²⁶⁶ Mufti Muhammad Shafi' ﷺ

²⁶⁷ The door of Ludd

هنا يخرج ملك السلام

The king of peace (*Dajjâl*) will emerge here

Now, study a Hadîth in which Rasûlullâh ﷺ mentioned the details of the descent of Hadrat 'Isâ ﷺ close to *Qiyâmah*. This Hadîth has been narrated through very authentic chains and three sahâbah ﷺ and one mother of the believers - Hadrat 'Â'isha radiyallâhu anha - has narrated it. Rasûlullâh ﷺ said,

فِي طَلَبِهِ حَتَّى يَدْرِكَهُ بَابَ لُدُّ، فَيَقْتُلَهُ. صَحِيفَةُ مُسْلِمٍ، سَنَنُ أَبْو دَاوُدَ، جَامِعٌ

ترمذى ، سنن ابن ماجة ، مسنن أحادى

*He will look for him until he finds him at Bâb Ludd. He will then kill him.*²⁶⁸

We traveled in the vehicle of another one of our hosts - 'Ali Hasan Ahmad al Bayârî, a famous businessperson of *Irbid* who is also linked to the effort of *tabligh* - in the journey from 'Ammân to *Irbid*. His father is also among the original residents of Palestine. In fact, he was a resident of this very 'Ludd'. He migrated from there in 1948 and came here (to *Irbid*) - [T]. 'Ali Hasan Ahmad al Bayârî was born here in 1951. Upon return from our tour, he hosted us in his magnificent house. In an enjoyable discussion, he narrated an incident of his. In 1980, he spent ten days in his hometown of *Ludd*. He said that there is a well at *Bâb Ludd*. The *Isrâ'ili* administration wanted to destroy this well in order to make way for a road. However, bulldozers and other machinery could not destroy this well. They were forced to build the road around this well. Now, the following line is written there,

²⁶⁸ *Sahîh Muslim*, *Sunan Abû Dâwûd*, *Jâmi' Tirmidhî*, *Sunan Ibn Mâjah*, *Musnad Ahmad*

هذا مکان تاریخی

This is a historical site

This very 'Ali Hasan Ahmad al Bayârî told us of his cousin who has great interest in the signs of *Qiyâmah*. His cousin went to *Ludd*. He saw a palace there being built by the *Isrâ'îlis* for their 'king of peace' (*Dajjâl*).

A WORTHY ACTION OF MAULÂNÂ RAFÎ' UD DÎN

رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ

Hadrat Maulânâ Rafî' ud Din رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ - the first principal of *Dar ul Ulûm* Deoband and a luminary of the *Naqshbandî* family - migrated to Makkah Mukarramah. He passed away there and is buried there too. He came to know of the Hadith in which it was mentioned that Rasûlullâh ﷺ gave the keys of the *Ka bah* to the *Shaybî* family. Therefore, even if all the families of Makkah Mukarramah were to be destroyed, the *Shaybî* family would survive until the Day of *Qiyâmah*.

Subsequently, Maulânâ Rafî' ud Din رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ thought of a strange plan of action. (He thought - [T]) that if this family is to remain until *Qiyâmah*, then they will definitely still be in existence during the era of the emergence of Hadrat Mahdî عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ. When Hadrat Mahdî عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ will emerge, then he will sit leaning against the *Ka bah* while the Muslims will pledge allegiance at his hands. The keys of the *Ka bah* will be with the *Shaybî* family. So, he took a

small Qur'ân²⁶⁹, a sword and wrote a letter addressed to Hadrat Mahdî عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ. The subject matter of the letter was as follows, 'The lowly one, Rafî' ud Dîn Deobandî is present in Makkah Mu'azzamah. You are busy preparing for *jihâd*. You have such *mujâhidîn* with you who will be rewarded like the *mujâhidîn* of Badr. This Qur'an is a gift to you from Rafî' ud Dîn and give this sword to one of the *mujâhidîn* so that he may participate in the battle on my behalf. I will thus be rewarded too.

I have given these three items to the *Shaybî* family and I have told them that your family will remain until *Qiyâmah*. This is a trust for the Mahdî عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ. When you pass away, then make a bequest to those who will replace you. Tell them to make the same bequest to those who will come after them. Every generation should make this bequest to the next until this trust reaches Hadrat Mahdî عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ.²⁷⁰

THE BEQUEST OF HADRAT ABÛ HURAYRAH عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ

عَنْ أَبِي هَرِيرَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ مَرْفُوعًا : يَنْزَلُ عَيْسَى بْنُ مَرِيمٍ فِي دِيْنِ الصَّلَبِ ، وَيُقْتَلُ الْخَتَزِيرُ وَيُضْعَفُ الْجَزِيرَةُ ، وَيَهْلِكُ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ فِي زَمَانِهِ الدِّجَالُ ، وَتَقْوَمُ الْكَلْمَةُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعِلَمِينِ - قَالَ أَبُو هَرِيرَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ : أَفَلَا تَرَوْنِي شَيْخًا كَبِيرًا قَدْ كَادَتْ أَنْ تَلْقَى تَرْقُوتَيِّي مِنَ الْكَبِيرِ ، إِنِّي لَا أَرْجُو أَنْ لَا أَمُوتَ حَتَّى أَلْقَاهُ

²⁶⁹ The Urdu word has various translations. One of them is 'small Qur'an', another is 'a sword belt hung from the shoulders', and another is 'a necklace of flowers'. Allâh عَزَّ وَجَلَّ knows best - [T]

²⁷⁰ *Khutbât Hakim ul Islâm* vol.2 p.98

واحدة عن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم ويصدقه ، فإن أنا مت قبل أن
ألقاه ولقيتموه بعدي فأقرأوا عليه مني السلام . السنن للداني ٢٤٢ رقم
٦٩١

It is narrated from Hadrat Abū Hurayrah - in marfū 'form - Isā bin Maryam will descend and he will break the cross, he will kill the pig and abrogate jizya. Allāh will destroy Dajjāl in his time and the word of Allāh will be established. Hadrat Abū Hurayrah says, "Do you not find me advanced in age? My ribs are almost touching each other because of old age. It is my desire that my death does not come until I do not meet him (Hadrat Isā) and I will narrate to him the Ahādīth of Rasūlullāh and he will verify it. If I pass away before meeting him and you meet him, then give the message of my salām to him."



DU'Â'

We stretch our hands in *du'â'* before Allāh ﷺ, asking Him to accept this work. May He make it a means of gaining the correct recognition of Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ, and may He accept us to raise His word together with him (Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ).

ربنا تقبل منا إنك أنت السميع العليم ، وتب علينا يا مولانا إنك أنت التواب
الرحيم ، وصلى الله تعالى على خير خلقه سيدنا محمد وآلته وصحبه وعلى من
تبعهم بإحسان إلى يوم الدين . آمين

Mahmûd Sulaymân Hâfizjî (Bârdolî), Makkah Mukarramah – in whose precincts this pious servant (Hadrat Mahdī ﷺ - [T]) will emerge in accordance to the glad-tidings of Rasūlullāh ﷺ.



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14. Dalâ'il un Nubuwwah
15. Fâth al Bârî
16. 'Umdatul Qârif
17. Fayd ul Bârî
18. Al Jâmi' Al Kabîr
19. Fayd al Qadîr
20. Fâth al Mulhim
21. Takmila Fâth al Mulhim
22. Ikmâl Ikmâl al Mu'lim
23. Mukammal al Ikmâl
24. Al Kaukab ad Durrî
25. Tuḥfah al Aḥwadhi
26. Al 'Arf ush Shadhi
27. Al 'Aun al Ma'bûd
28. Badhl al Majhûd
29. Misbâh uz Zujâjah

30. Ash'atul Lam 'ât
31. Mirqât ul Mafâtiḥ
32. Kanz ul 'Ummâl
33. Muntakhab Kanz ul 'Ummâl
34. Al 'Arf al Wardî fi Akhbâr al Mahdî
35. 'Âridah al Aḥwadhi
36. Al Bidâyah wa An Nihâyah
37. As Si'âyah
38. Al Mughnî li Ad Dhahabî
39. Tahdhîb ut Tahdhîb
40. At Tâdhkirah lil Qurṭubî
41. At Târikh li Ibn 'Asâkir
42. Al Aḥâdîth Ad Da'ifah lish Shaukâni
43. Silsilah Al Aḥâdîth Ad Da'ifah
44. Al Kâmil fi Du'afâ' Ar Rijâl li Ibn 'Adî
45. Nukhba al La'âli sharh Bad' ul Amâli
46. Al Manâr al Munif li Ibn Al Qayyîm
47. Mizâni al I'tidâl
48. Kifâyatul Muftî
49. Fatâwâ Mahmûdiyya
50. Fatâwâ Rahîmiyya
51. Khayr al Fatâwâ
52. Al Hâwi lil Fatâwâ
53. Nawâdir ul Fiqh
54. Izâlatul Khifa'
55. Tuḥfa e Khilâfat of Maulânâ 'Abd ush Shakûr Lakhnawî
56. Târikh ul Khulafâ'
57. Ma'ârif ul Hadîth
58. Majma' Bihâr al Anwâr
59. Tarjumân us Sunnah

60. Rahmatullâh al Wâsi'a
61. Al Mahdî wal Masîh of Muftî Yûsuf Ludhiyânwî
62. Lisân ul Mîzân
63. Al Ishâ'a li Ashrât As Sâ'a
64. Sharh Al Fiqh Al Akbar
65. Sharh 'Aqîdah As Safârînî
66. An Nibrâs
67. 'Aqîdah Zuhûr e Mahdî
68. Arwâh e Thalâtha
69. Imâm Mahdî, Shakhsiyat wa Haqîqat
70. Imâm Mahdî of Maulânâ Diyâ ur Rahmân Fârûqî
71. Imâm Mahdî ka Zuhûr Nahî Huwa Muftî Salmân Mansûrpûrî
72. Nuzûl 'Isâ Zuhûr e Masîh of Maulânâ Idrîs Kândehlawî
73. 'Aqâ'id e Islâm of Maulânâ Muhammad Pâlan Haqqânî
74. Kitâb al Fitân wa Ashrât us Sâ'a of 'Allâh Dânî
75. 'Alâmât e Qiyâmah of Muftî Rafî' Uthmânî
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77. 'Alâmât e Qiyâmah of Shâh Rafî' ud Dîn
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83. Malfuzât e Faqîh ul Ummah
84. An Nihâyah li Ibn Kathîr
85. Khutbât Hakîm ul Islâm
86. Âp ke Masâ'il aur un ka Hal

Notes

Family Ties

*Miscellaneous Advices
Regarding the Fostering and
Maintaining of Family Ties*

Jointly Published by:
Zam Zam Publishers
and
Madrasah Arabia Islamia

Summary of the Qur'ân Majîd

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Jointly Published by:
Zam Zam Publishers
and
Madrasah Arabia Islamia

AN ECHO FROM THE HEART

*A collection of lectures
delivered by:*

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Zam Zam Publishers
and
Madrasah Arabia Islamia

باللغة الانجليزية
ظهور المهدى



About the Book

The subject of Mahdî has attracted the attention of both Muslims and non-Muslims alike worldwide in recent times. Tens of theories have been brought to the fore throughout history with many people even deciding on the date of the emergence of the Mahdî. The author has presented the summary of great research that deals exclusively with the authentic information given by Rasûlullâh ﷺ in the Ahâdîth. He has also refuted the false and fabricated information put out by ignorant individuals and deviated groups. Great scholars have lent credence to this masterpiece. Allâh جل جلاله willing, it will serve to inform, enlighten and inspire.

